



**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE**

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: THOMAS W. THOMPSON, BPR #030659
CONTACT: WILLIAM C. MOODY
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

March 25, 2019

TENNESSEE ATTORNEY CENSURED

On March 25, 2019, Thomas W. Thompson, of Tampa, Florida, was publicly censured by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court. As a condition of his public censure, Mr. Thompson must withdraw from all Tennessee cases where he is attorney of record. Mr. Thompson must pay the Board's costs and expenses and the court costs within ninety days of the entry of the Order of Enforcement.

On July 6, 2018, a Petition for Discipline was filed against Mr. Thompson alleging that he committed ethical misconduct by practicing law while suspended for failing to comply with continuing legal education requirements. Mr. Thompson resides in Florida where he is licensed to practice law. He is also licensed to practice law in Tennessee. He was suspended by the Tennessee Supreme Court on August 16, 2016, for failing to comply with continuing legal education requirements. While suspended, four lawsuits were filed in Tennessee naming him as the attorney for the plaintiffs. The lawsuits were prepared and filed by Mr. Thompson's nonlawyer staff without his knowledge. Mr. Thompson has not yet withdrawn from the cases.

Mr. Thompson entered into a conditional guilty plea admitting that his actions violated Rules of Professional Conduct 5.5(a), Unauthorized Practice of Law; and 8.4, Misconduct.

A Public Censure is a rebuke and warning to the attorney, but it does not affect the attorney's ability to practice law.

Thompson 2885-0 rel.doc

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

FILED

03/25/2019

Clerk of the
Appellate Courts

IN RE: THOMAS W. THOMPSON, BPR #030659

An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Tampa, Florida)

No. M2019-00481-SC-BAR-BP
BOPR No. 2018-2885-0-WM

ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Thomas W. Thompson on July 6, 2018; upon Answer of Respondent Thomas W. Thompson filed by Mr. Thompson on September 7, 2018; upon entry of a Conditional Guilty Plea filed by Mr. Thompson on February 11, 2019; upon an Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea entered on February 20, 2019; upon service of the Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea on Mr. Thompson by the Executive Secretary for the Board on February 20, 2019; upon consideration and approval by the Board on March 8, 2019; and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which the Court approves the Order of the Hearing Panel and adopts the Hearing Panel's Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea as the Court's Order.

On August 16, 2016, Mr. Thompson was administratively suspended by this Court for noncompliance with continuing legal education requirements (Case No. ADM2016-00008). To date, Mr. Thompson has not requested, nor been granted reinstatement.

IT IS, THEREFORE, CONSIDERED, ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED BY THE COURT THAT:

(1) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.4, Thomas W. Thompson is publicly censured.

(2) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.8, as a condition of the public censure, Mr. Thompson must comply with the following:

(a) Within thirty (30) days of the execution of the Conditional Guilty Plea, a motion to withdraw shall be filed on behalf of Mr. Thompson

in each case pending in Tennessee where his name has been entered as an attorney of record. Mr. Thompson shall provide Disciplinary Counsel with copies of all motions to withdraw, and orders granting those motions, within ten days of their filing.

(b) Failure to comply with this condition may result in further proceedings pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9.

(3) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.1, this Order shall be effective upon entry.

(4) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3(d), Mr. Thompson shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$741.33 and shall pay to the Clerk of this Court the costs incurred herein, within ninety (90) days of the entry of this Order, for all of which execution may issue if necessary.

(5) The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this discipline to be published as required by Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.11.

PER CURIAM