



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: MELVIN JACOB WERNER, BPR #015909
CONTACT: JOSEPH K. BYRD
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

December 3, 2021

KNOX COUNTY LAWYER TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED

On December 3, 2021, the Supreme Court of Tennessee temporarily suspended Melvin Jacob Werner from the practice of law upon finding that Mr. Werner misappropriated funds of a client and poses a threat of substantial harm to the public. Section 12.3 of Supreme Court Rule 9 provides for the immediate summary suspension of an attorney's license to practice law in cases of an attorney's misappropriation of a client's funds.

Mr. Werner is immediately precluded from accepting any new cases, and he must cease representing existing clients by January 2, 2022. After January 2, 2022, Mr. Werner shall not practice law in any capacity; use any indicia of lawyer, legal assistant, or law clerk; nor maintain a presence where the practice of law is conducted.

Mr. Werner must notify all clients being represented in pending matters, as well as co-counsel and opposing counsel, of the Supreme Court's Order suspending his law license. Mr. Werner is required to deliver to all clients any papers or property to which they are entitled.

Mr. Werner must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 12.3(d), regarding the obligations and responsibilities of temporarily suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

This temporary suspension remains in effect until dissolution or modification by the Supreme Court. Mr. Werner may for good cause request dissolution or modification of the temporary suspension by petition to the Supreme Court.

Werner 3202-2 rel.doc

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

IN RE: MELVIN JACOB WERNER BPR #015909
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Knox County)



No. M2021-01395-SC-BAR-BP
BOPR No. 2021-3202-2-JB-12.3

ORDER OF TEMPORARY SUSPENSION

This matter is before the Court on a Petition of the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Supreme Court of Tennessee, by and through Disciplinary Counsel, for the temporary suspension of Melvin Jacob Werner from the practice of law pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.3. The Petition has been authorized by the Chair of the Board of Professional Responsibility and is supported by the Affidavits of Alyssa Iseman, Complainant and Joseph K Byrd, Disciplinary Counsel. Mr. Werner filed a response in opposition to the Petition, and the Board of Professional Responsibility filed a reply to the response.

Based upon the Petition, the supporting Affidavits, the response, and the reply, the Court finds that Melvin Jacob Werner, Respondent, misappropriated funds and poses a threat of substantial harm to the public as detailed by the Affidavits of the Complainant and Disciplinary Counsel.

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

1. Melvin Jacob Werner is hereby temporarily suspended from the practice of law as provided in Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.3.
2. Melvin Jacob Werner shall comply with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9 in all respects and particularly as provided in Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28, regarding the responsibilities of suspended attorneys.
3. Melvin Jacob Werner may make application for dissolution or modification of this Order as provided in Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.3.
4. The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this suspension of Melvin Jacob Werner to be published as required by Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.11.

PER CURIAM