



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: WILLIAM LEE WHEATLEY, BPR #22339
CONTACT: KRISANN HODGES
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

September 17, 2010

KNOXVILLE LAWYER SUSPENDED

On September 10, 2010, the Tennessee Supreme Court temporarily suspended the law license of William Lee Wheatley, a Knoxville attorney, pursuant to Section 4.3 of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9. The Board of Professional Responsibility petitioned the Court to temporarily suspend Mr. Wheatley's law license because of his failure to substantially comply with his Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (TLAP) Monitoring Agreement.

Pursuant to Rule 9, Section 4.3, Mr. Wheatley cannot accept new clients or undertake any new representation. He may represent existing clients for thirty (30) days, after which he cannot represent them unless the temporary suspension has been dissolved. Mr. Wheatley may file an application with the Tennessee Supreme Court requesting a dissolution or modification of the temporary suspension order. If he makes such an application, a hearing to consider whether the suspension should be continued, modified or dissolved will be conducted before a panel consisting of members of the Board of Professional Responsibility.

Wheatley 1972-2 rel.doc

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

FILED
SEP 10 2010
Clerk of the Courts

IN RE: WILLIAM LEE WHEATLEY, BPR NO. 022339
An Attorney Licensed To Practice Law In Tennessee
(Knox County)

No. M200-01900-SC-BPR-BP

BOPR No. 2010-1972-2-KH(4.3)

ORDER OF TEMPORARY SUSPENSION

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition of the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Supreme Court of Tennessee, by and through Disciplinary Counsel, for the temporary suspension of William Lee Wheatley from the practice of law, pursuant to Section 4.3 of Supreme Court Rule 9. The Petition has been authorized by the Chair of the Board of Professional Responsibility and is supported by the Affidavit of Ted Rice, Deputy Director of the Tennessee Lawyer's Assistance Program.

Based upon the Petition and the supporting Affidavit, the Court finds that William Lee Wheatley is in substantial non-compliance with his Monitoring Agreement with the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program.

It is, therefore, **ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED** by the Court that:

1. William Lee Wheatley is hereby temporarily suspended from the practice of law as provided in Section 4.3, Rule 9, of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee.
2. William Lee Wheatley shall comply with Supreme Court Rule 9 in all respects, and particularly as provided in Section 18.
3. William Lee Wheatley may make application for dissolution or modification of this Order as provided in Supreme Court Rule 9.

4. The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this suspension of William Lee Wheatley to be published as required by Supreme Court Rule 9.

FOR THE COURT:

Cornelia A. Clark
CORNELIA A. CLARK
CHIEF JUSTICE

I, Michael W. Catalano, Clerk, hereby certify that this is a true and exact copy of the original

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filed in the cause.

This 15 day of Sept, 2010
CLERK OF COURT

By: Audra Vance D.C.