

# SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

## In re Crosby

127 Ohio St. 3d 1424 (Ohio 2010) · Decided November 1, 2010

### SUMMARY

The Supreme Court of Ohio ordered the interim suspension of William Matthew Crosby from the practice of law following certification of a felony conviction. The order referred the matter for disciplinary investigation and imposed requirements concerning cessation of legal practice, client notification, continuing legal education, reimbursement to the Clients' Security Fund, and possible reinstatement.

### CASE DETAILS

|                    |                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| COURT              | Supreme Court of Ohio                                                                                                                                                                  |
| JURISDICTION       | Ohio                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| DECIDED            | November 1, 2010                                                                                                                                                                       |
| DISPOSITION        | other                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| PROCEDURAL POSTURE | The Supreme Court of Ohio received certification of a judgment entry reflecting William Matthew Crosby's felony conviction and entered an interim suspension from the practice of law. |
| PRECEDENTIAL VALUE | Published disciplinary order                                                                                                                                                           |

### TOPICS

administrative law

### PRACTICE AREAS

attorney discipline

legal ethics

professional responsibility

### QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether certification of an attorney's felony conviction required or authorized the Supreme Court of Ohio to impose an interim suspension under Gov.Bar R. V(5)(A)(4).
2. What ancillary practice restrictions, client-notification duties, reimbursement obligations, continuing-legal-education requirements, and reinstatement conditions should accompany the interim suspension.

### HOLDINGS

1. Upon certification of the judgment entry of Crosby's felony conviction, the Supreme Court of Ohio ordered that Crosby be suspended from the practice of law for an interim period effective immediately.
2. Crosby was immediately prohibited from practicing law or performing legal services, was required to comply with client-notification and property-delivery obligations, and could not be reinstated until satisfying the specified reinstatement requirements and obtaining a reinstatement order from the court.

#### **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

William Matthew Crosby was an attorney licensed to practice law in Ohio and had been convicted of a felony. The secretary of the Board of Commissioners on Grievances and Discipline certified the felony-conviction judgment entry to the Supreme Court of Ohio, which responded by imposing an interim suspension and related protective and administrative requirements.

#### **PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

The secretary of the Board of Commissioners on Grievances and Discipline certified to the Supreme Court of Ohio a certified copy of Crosby's felony-conviction judgment entry pursuant to Gov.Bar R. V(5)(A)(3). The court then ordered an interim suspension under Gov.Bar R. V(5)(A)(4), referred the matter to Disciplinary Counsel for investigation and commencement of disciplinary proceedings, and imposed related practice, notice, continuing-education, reimbursement, and reinstatement requirements.

#### **DISPOSITION**

other