



**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
Of the  
**SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE**

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: JOHN C. ZIMMERMANN, BPR #9723**  
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**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
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May 29, 2002

**NASHVILLE LAWYER CENSURED**

John C. Zimmermann, a Nashville lawyer, was publicly censured by the Board of Professional Responsibility on May 28, 2002. A public censure is a public rebuke and warning to the offender, but, censure does not affect the lawyer's license to practice law. The discipline was imposed by the Board and Zimmermann had a right to request a hearing. A hearing was not requested and the discipline is final.

This matter arose from an action in the Court of Criminal Appeals. That court found that Zimmermann, while acting as an Assistant District Attorney, violated a defendant's constitutional rights by withholding material evidence that the defendant's attorney was entitled to receive. He was found by the Board of Professional Responsibility to have violated court rules and local customs of practice.

The Board found aggravating factors that the attorney was experienced in the practice of law and he had two prior disciplinary sanctions.

The disciplinary rules are mandatory for all attorneys. They state a minimum level of conduct and any violation reflects negatively on the standing and integrity of the legal profession.

CH:mw

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