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SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
IN RE: CRAIG JOSEPH BARTEL, BPR #17873
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April 29, 2003

DECATUR COUNTY LAWYER DISBARRED FROM THE PRACTICE OF LAW

Craig Joseph Bartel, a Decatur County attorney, has been disbarred from the practice of law in this State by Order of the Supreme Court entered April 28, 2004. Bartel was disbarred based upon a consent order entered into by Bartel and Disciplinary Counsel.

The order stipulated that Bartel consented to disbarment because he could not successfully defend himself on the charges alleged in the complaint filed against him. The disbarment was issued pursuant to Section 15.1 of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9. The Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9 provides that an attorney disbarred may not apply for reinstatement until the expiration of at least five years from the effective date of the disbarment. The disbarment shall remain in effect until an order of reinstatement is issued by the Supreme Court of Tennessee, upon a showing by clear and convincing evidence that his reinstatement to the practice of law would in no way be detrimental to the public interest.

Section 18 of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9 requires Bartel to notify by registered or certified mail all clients being represented in pending matters; all co-counsel and opposing counsel of the Supreme Court's order disbaring him. Section 18 also requires Bartel to deliver to all clients any papers or properties to which they are entitled.

LLC:mw

Bartel 1370 rel.doc