



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: JOHN STEPHEN ANDERSON, BPR #12367**  
**CONTACT: EILEEN BURKHALTER SMITH**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

January 19, 2018

**HAWKINS COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED**

On January 11, 2018, John Stephen Anderson, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

A client hired Mr. Anderson to represent her in a car accident. Though Mr. Anderson filed a lawsuit, he did not timely serve process on the defendant. For three years, Mr. Anderson falsely told his client he was in the process of trying to settle the case. The lawsuit was dismissed by the court.

By these acts, Mr. Anderson, is in violation of Rules 1.1 (competence), 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 1.16 (termination of representation), 3.2 (expediting litigation), 8.1 (disciplinary matters), 8.4(c) (conduct involving dishonesty), and 8.4(d) (prejudice to the administration of justice) of the Rules of Professional Conduct. Because Mr. Anderson has received prior public discipline for similar conduct during the same time period, he is hereby publicly censured for these violations.

A Public Censure is a rebuke and warning to the attorney, but it does not affect the attorney's ability to practice law.

Anderson 42963c-1 rel.doc

IN DISCIPLINARY DISTRICT I  
OF THE  
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY  
OF THE  
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

IN RE: John Stephen Anderson, #12367  
Respondent, an attorney licensed  
to practice law in Tennessee  
(Hawkins County)

FILE NO. 42963c-1-ES

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PUBLIC CENSURE

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The above complaint was filed against John Stephen Anderson, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, alleging certain acts of misconduct. Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, the Board of Professional Responsibility considered these matters at its meeting on December 8, 2017.

A client hired Mr. Anderson to represent her in a car accident. Though Mr. Anderson filed a lawsuit, he did not timely serve process on the defendant. For three years, Mr. Anderson falsely told his client he was in the process of trying to settle the case. The lawsuit was dismissed by the court.

By the aforementioned acts, Mr. Anderson is in violation of Rules 1.1 (competence), 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 1.16 (termination of representation), 3.2 (expediting litigation), 8.1 (disciplinary matters), 8.4(c) (conduct involving dishonesty), and 8.4(d) (prejudice to the administration of justice) of the Rules of Professional Conduct and is hereby Publicly Censured or these violations.

FOR THE BOARD OF  
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

*Jimmie C. Miller*

Jimmie C. Miller, Chair

*January 11, 2018*

Date