



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: RENFRO BLACKBURN BAIRD, BPR #13150
CONTACT: M. PRESTON SHIPP
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

January 17, 2017

HAWKINS COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On January 13, 2017, Renfro Blackburn Baird, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

While representing a client in a case before the Court of Criminal Appeals, Mr. Baird repeatedly failed to file a brief, failed to notify the Court of the status of the appeal, and failed to comply with show cause orders. Based on Mr. Baird's misconduct, the Court held Mr. Baird in willful criminal contempt. However, Mr. Baird obtained permission from the Court to late-file the brief, so his client was not denied the right to appeal.

By these acts, Renfro Blackburn Baird has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 3.2 (expediting litigation), 3.4(c) (failure to abide by court rule), and 8.4(d) (conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice) and is hereby Publicly Censured for this violation.

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

Baird 48325-1 rel.doc