



**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

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

IN RE: RENFRO BLACKBURN BAIRD, BPR NO.13150
Respondent, an attorney licensed
to practice law in Tennessee
(Hawkins County)

FILE NO. 48325-1-PS

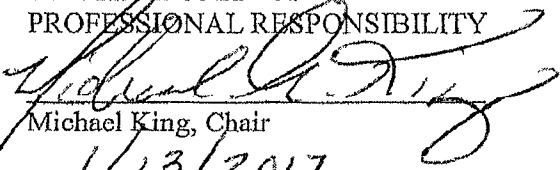
PUBLIC CENSURE

The above complaint was filed against Renfro Blackburn Baird, #13150, 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 9, 2016.

While representing a client in a case before the Court of Criminal Appeals, the Respondent 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 the Respondent's misconduct, the Court held the Respondent in willful criminal contempt. However, the Respondent obtained permission from the Court to late-file the brief, so his client was not denied the right to appeal.

By the aforementioned acts, Renfro Blackburn Baird has violated Rule 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 these violations.

FOR THE BOARD OF
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY


Michael King, Chair

4/13/2017

Date