



BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
of the
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: MATTHEW Q. BASTIAN, BPR #12562
CONTACT: CHARLES A. HIGH, DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
(615) 695-0929

October 20, 2006

MAURY COUNTY ATTORNEY SUSPENDED FROM PRACTICE OF LAW

Matthew Q. Bastian, a Maury County lawyer, was suspended from the practice of law by order of the Tennessee Supreme Court entered on October 17, 2006. The suspension is for a term of six (6) months commencing on October 27, 2006.

The order also provides that Mr. Bastian shall be on probation for 5 months, 29 days, after the suspension under the condition that he shall secure and provide proof of acquiring errors and omissions insurance coverage with limits of \$100,000.00 or greater.

The discipline resulted from the judgment of a hearing panel of the Board of Professional Responsibility entered on June 12, 2006, after a hearing on discipline to be imposed on May 11, 2006.

The hearing panel found that Bastian was hired and paid to prepare an appeal to the Court of Appeals in a divorce action. The Court of Appeals ordered Bastian's client to file a supplemental record but it was not filed. The client had to employ other counsel to prevent the appeal from being dismissed. The client obtained a judgment against Bastian for \$7,000.00 after the appeal was decided. Bastian did not pay the judgment.

The hearing panel found that Mr. Bastian violated RPC 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.15, 1.16, 3.2 and 8.4 in the matter. The hearing panel found that the misconduct of the respondent was aggravated by prior public discipline for similar misconduct and for a lack of remorse and candor at the hearing.

Mr. Bastian shall be reinstated without a hearing after the six month suspension ends if he has paid the costs of the proceeding.

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