February 8, 2007

MEMPHIS LAWYER PUBLICLY CENSURED

On February 6, 2007, the Supreme Court of Tennessee publicly censured Stuart B. Breakstone, a Memphis, Tennessee, lawyer. The Board of Professional Responsibility filed a Petition for Discipline and pursuant to Section 16.1 of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Breakstone submitted a Conditional Guilty Plea in exchange for a stated form of discipline. The Tennessee Supreme Court publicly censured Breakstone for being removed as counsel for an ex-wife/mother as a result of a conflict of interest arising from his personal relationship with that client during that representation in a post-divorce/custody proceeding, in violation of Rules 1.7(b) and 8.4(a)(d) of the Tennessee Rules of Professional Conduct.

The public censure is a form of discipline that declares the conduct of the lawyer improper but does not limit the lawyer’s right to practice law.