



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

10 CADILLAC DRIVE, SUITE 220  
BRENTWOOD, TENNESSEE 37027  
TELEPHONE: (615) 361-7500  
(800) 486-5714  
FAX: (615) 367-2480  
E-MAIL: [ethics@tbpr.org](mailto:ethics@tbpr.org)  
Website: [www.tbpr.org](http://www.tbpr.org)

**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**ROBERT THOMAS CARTER, BPR #013185**  
**CONTACT: SANDY GARRETT**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

April 28, 2011

**TULLAHOMA LAWYER CENSURED**

On April 28, 2011, Robert Thomas Carter, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Mr. Carter appealed a client's sentence in a criminal case. The Court of Criminal Appeals affirmed the client's sentence based upon Mr. Carter's failure to include the sentencing hearing transcript. Mr. Carter failed to advise his client of the necessity of having a court reporter present for the sentencing hearing. Mr. Carter's actions violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1 (competence), 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication) and 8.4 (misconduct).

Carter 33569-4 rel.doc

**PLEASE NOTE**  
**YOU MAY SUBSCRIBE TO RECEIVE INFORMATIONAL RELEASES, FORMAL ETHICS**  
**OPINIONS, NEWSLETTERS AND ANNUAL REPORTS ELECTRONICALLY BY SIGNING IN AT**  
**THE BOARD'S WEBSITE**

**[www.tbpr.org/Subscriptions](http://www.tbpr.org/Subscriptions)**

FILED

2011 APR 28 PM 3:06

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL  
RESPONSIBILITY

*Rw* EXEC. SEC.

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

IN RE: ROBERT THOMAS CARTER,  
BPR #013185, Respondent  
An Attorney Licensed and  
Admitted to the Practice of  
Law in Tennessee  
(Coffee County),

FILE NO. 33569-4-SG

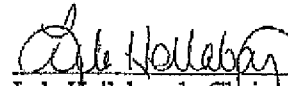
PUBLIC CENSURE

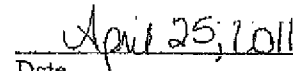
The above complaint was filed against Robert Thomas Carter, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, alleging certain acts of misconduct. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, the Board of Professional Responsibility considered these matters at its meeting on March 11, 2011.

The Respondent represented the Complainant in *State v. Watson*. The Complainant was sentenced and the Respondent appealed the Complainant's sentence of concurrent sentences of eight (8) years, with One Hundred Twenty (120) days in confinement and the remainder served on community corrections. By Order filed July 13, 2010, the Court of Criminal Appeals affirmed the Complainant's sentence based upon the Respondent's failure to include the sentencing hearing transcript causing the Court of Criminal Appeals to be unable to determine whether the trial court considered the necessary sentencing principles. The Respondent failed to advise the Complainant of the necessity of having a Court Reporter present for the Complainant's sentencing hearing.

By the above acts, the Respondent violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1 (competence),

1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication) and 8.4(a) (misconduct).

  
Lela Hollabaugh, Chair

  
Date