



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
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October 19, 2009

MARYVILLE LAWYER CENSURED

On October 19, 2009, Charles Michael Clifford, of Maryville, Tennessee, was publicly censured by the Board of Professional Responsibility.

Mr. Clifford represented a client in a civil action against a home improvement company. He was not diligent in working on the client's case and there were long delays during the four years he represented the client. Mr. Clifford found it difficult to tell his client that the case was weak and probably could not be sustained. He admitted lying to his client about a court setting.

Mr. Clifford's actions violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 3.2 (expediting litigation), 8.1(b) (responding to disciplinary counsel) and 8.4(c) (misconduct).

Clifford 30411-2 rel.doc

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