



**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**  
**RE: WENDELL CORNELIUS DAWSON, BPR #012960**  
**CONTACT: PRESTON SHIPP**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

October 15, 2018

**DAVIDSON COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED**

On October 15, 2018, Wendell Cornelius Dawson, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Mr. Dawson represented a client applying for cancellation of removal before the immigration court. Although Mr. Dawson presented documentation to the court concerning his client's presence in the United States, he failed to call any witnesses other than his client at the final hearing to satisfy the significant burden of showing exceptional and extremely unusual hardship. Likewise, Mr. Dawson did not diligently represent his client in his appeal. He did not meet with his client to discuss the appeal, and his brief was one page in which he generally argued, without citations to authority or the record, that his client had testified to his presence in the country and the hardship his children would suffer if he were removed from the United States.

By these acts, Mr. Dawson, has violated Rule of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence) 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.

Dawson 55092-5 rel.doc

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

IN RE: WENDELL CORNELIUS DAWSON, BPR NO.012960      FILE NO. 55092-5-PS  
Respondent, an attorney licensed  
to practice law in Tennessee  
(Davidson County)

---

PUBLIC CENSURE

---


The above complaint was filed against Wendell Cornelius Dawson, #012960, 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 September 14, 2018.

The Respondent represented his client in applying for cancellation of removal before the Memphis Immigration Court. Although the Respondent did present documentation to the immigration court concerning his client's presence in the United States, the Respondent failed to call any witnesses other than his client at the final hearing to satisfy the significant burden of showing exceptional and extremely unusual hardship. Likewise, the Respondent did not diligently represent his client in his appeal. The Respondent did not meet with his client to discuss the appeal, and his brief was a mere one page, in which he generally argued, without citations to authority or the record, that his client had testified to his presence in the country and the hardship his children would suffer if he were removed to Mexico.

Wendell Cornelius Dawson  
File No. 55092-5-PS  
Page 2 of 2

By the aforementioned acts, Wendell Cornelius Dawson has violated Rule of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence) and is hereby Publicly Censured for this violation.

FOR THE BOARD OF  
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

  
Jimmie C. Miller, Chair

10-15-18  
Date