



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: JOHN T. HARDING, BPR #17751**  
**CONTACT: KEVIN D. BALKWILL**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

April 30, 2015

**SUMNER COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED**

On April 28, 2015, John T. Harding, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Mr. Harding failed to deposit a client's refundable fee into his trust account and instead commingled the funds into his operating account. Mr. Harding also had his client enter into a fee agreement seven (7) months after his representation began which was more advantageous to Mr. Harding without advising his client of the reasonable opportunity to seek the advice of independent counsel.

By these acts, John Thompson Harding has violated Rule of Professional Conduct 1.5 (fees), 1.8(a) (conflict of interest), and 1.15 (safekeeping property) and is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations.

A Public Censure is a rebuke and warning to the attorney, but it does not affect the attorney's ability to practice law.

Harding 37301-6 rel.doc

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

IN RE: JOHN THOMPSON HARDING, BPR NO. 17751  
Respondent, an attorney licensed  
to practice law in Tennessee  
(Sumner County)

FILE NO. 37301-6-KB

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PUBLIC CENSURE

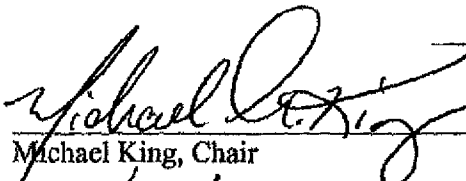
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The above complaint was filed against John Thompson Harding, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, alleging certain acts of misconduct. Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, the Board of Professional Responsibility considered these matters at its meeting on March 13, 2015.

Mr. Harding failed to deposit a client's refundable fee into his trust account and instead commingled the funds into his operating account. Mr. Harding also had his client enter into a fee agreement seven (7) months after his representation began which was more advantageous to Mr. Harding without advising his client of the reasonable opportunity to seek the advice of independent counsel.

By these acts, John Thompson Harding has violated Rule of Professional Conduct 1.5 (fees), 1.8(a) (conflict of interest), and 1.15 (safekeeping property) and is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations.

FOR THE BOARD OF  
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

  
Michael King, Chair  
4/28/15  
Date