



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: KRISTI LEA NORRIS JOHNSON, BPR #022082**  
**CONTACT: EILEEN BURKHALTER SMITH**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

July 13, 2023

**CARTER COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED**

On July 13, 2023, Kristi Lea Norris Johnson, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Clients hired Ms. Johnson in January 2016 on a car wreck matter. Ms. Johnson filed a lawsuit on January 30, 2017, and the case was set for trial in 2019 and 2020 and continued each time. Ms. Johnson filed a nonsuit of the case on December 1, 2021. The clients state that they were never informed and did not agree to the nonsuit. Ms. Johnson sent communication to the clients thereafter in which she stated she was working on scheduling a new trial date. In June 2022, the clients discovered the nonsuit and terminated the representation.

By these acts, Ms. Johnson has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.2 (scope of representation), 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 3.2 (expediting litigation) and 8.4(d) (prejudice to the administration of justice) 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.

Johnson 72111-1 rel.doc