



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: JAMES BRYAN LEWIS, BPR #15116
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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
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March 21, 2017

DAVIDSON COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On March 21, 2017, James Bryan Lewis of Nashville, Tennessee, was Publicly Censured by order of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

On April 27, 2015, the Board filed a Petition for Discipline against Mr. Lewis alleging that he committed ethical misconduct by engaging in an ex parte communication with a General Sessions judge in order to obtain a favorable result for his client. Specifically, Mr. Lewis represented a man charged with domestic assault and who was subject to the statutory 12-hour hold before being released on bond. Without notifying the District Attorney's Office, Mr. Lewis made an ex parte telephone call to a General Sessions judge at his home on a Sunday morning to obtain the waiver of the 12-hour hold.

Mr. Lewis entered into a conditional guilty plea admitting that his actions violated Rules of Professional Conduct 3.5(b) (Impartiality and Decorum of the Tribunal) and 8.4(a) (Misconduct) and should be 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.

Lewis 2449-5 rel.doc