



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: JOHNNY QUITMAN RASBERRY, JR., #19160
CONTACT: KRISANN HODGES
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

April 5, 2017

SHELBY COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On April 4, 2017, Johnny Quitman Rasberry, Jr., an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Mr. Rasberry was hired by a client for the adoption of two children. Mr. Rasberry prepared a petition for the adoption of the children, and the client signed it on March 26, 2015. In August 2015, the client told Mr. Rasberry that one of the opposing parties in the adoption had expressed interest in agreeing to the adoption. Mr. Rasberry failed to file the petition until October 4, 2016, thus causing a significant delay in the adoption of the two children. Further, he failed to respond to requests for information from his client on this matter and failed to take any action on the potential agreement of one opposing party.

By these acts, Mr. Rasberry has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 3.2 (expediting litigation), and 8.4 (prejudice to the administration of justice).

Mr. Rasberry 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.

Rasberry 46615c-9-ES rel.doc

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

IN RE: JOHNNY QUITMAN RASBERRY, Jr., #19160
Respondent, an attorney licensed
to practice law in Tennessee
(Shelby County)

FILE NO. 46615c-9-ES

PUBLIC CENSURE


The above complaint was filed against Johnny Quitman Rasberry, Jr., 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 10, 2017.

A client hired Mr. Rasberry for the adoption of two children. Mr. Rasberry prepared a petition for the adoption of the children, and the client signed it on March 26, 2015. In August 2015, the client told Mr. Rasberry that one of the opposing parties in the adoption had expressed interest in agreeing to the adoption. Mr. Rasberry failed to file the petition until October 4, 2016, and failed to respond to requests for information from his client on this matter.


Mr. Rasberry's failure to file a petition for adoption for 19 months, and failure to take any action on the potential agreement of one opposing party is in violation of Rule 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 3.2 (expediting litigation), and 8.4 (prejudice to the administration of justice). Mr. Rasberry is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations. Additionally, within ninety (90) days, Mr. Rasberry shall pay restitution to the client for fees paid, in an amount of \$2,500, and provide proof of such payment to Disciplinary Counsel. Also, within ninety (90) days,

Mr. Rasberry, shall undergo an evaluation by the Tennessee Lawyer's Assistance Program and follow its recommendations, and provide proof of such evaluation and compliance to Disciplinary Counsel.

FOR THE BOARD OF
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY



Michael King, Chair



Date