



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: JAMES D. R. ROBERTS, JR., BPR #17537**  
**CONTACT: PRESTON SHIPP**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

April 24, 2015

**DAVIDSON COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED**

On April 20, 2015, James D. R. Roberts, Jr., an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

In an appellate brief, Mr. Roberts argued that the lower court had been “evasive and untruthful,” had “conduct[ed] unnecessary hearings and enter[ed] untruthful and harassing orders in order to cover up” its own improper conduct; and made improper findings against him “to deflect attention from its own illegal acts.”

In ruling against Mr. Roberts, the Court of Appeals noted that Mr. Roberts made “unwarranted accusations impugning the integrity” of the trial court and “baseless and improper assertions” designed to deflect attention away from his own “flagrant misconduct in the trial court.”

By these acts, James D. R. Roberts, Jr., violated Rule of Professional Conduct 8.2 (statements about judicial officers) 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.

Roberts 36965-5 rel.doc

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

IN RE: JAMES D.R. ROBERTS, JR., BPR NO. 17537  
Respondent, an attorney licensed  
to practice law in Tennessee  
(Davidson County)

FILE NO. 36965-5-PS

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PUBLIC CENSURE

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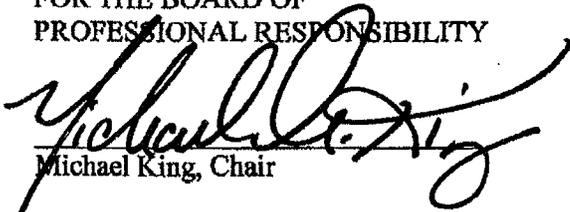
The above complaint was filed against James D.R. Roberts, Jr., #17537 an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, alleging certain acts of misconduct. Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, the Board of Professional Responsibility considered these matters at its meeting on March 13, 2015.

In an appellate brief, the Respondent argued that the lower court had refused to follow the law or the Rules of Civil Procedure; had been "evasive and untruthful," had "conduct[ed] unnecessary hearings and enter[ed] untruthful and harassing orders in order to cover up" its own improper conduct; and made improper findings against him "to deflect attention from its own illegal acts."

The Court of Appeals noted the "high irony" of the Respondent accusing the trial court of misconduct when it was the Respondent who orchestrated a charade to disrupt the sheriff's sale of his client's property. The appellate court also noted that in his brief, the Respondent made "unwarranted accusations impugning the integrity" of the trial court, "baseless and improper assertions" designed to deflect attention away from his own "flagrant misconduct in the trial court."

By the aforementioned acts, Mr. Roberts has violated Rule of Professional Conduct 8.2  
(statements about judicial officers) and is hereby Publicly Censured for this violation.

FOR THE BOARD OF  
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

  
Michael King, Chair

4-20-2015  
Date