



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

10 CADILLAC DRIVE, SUITE 220
BRENTWOOD, TENNESSEE 37027
TELEPHONE: (615) 361-7500
(800) 486-5714
FA24: (615) 367-2480
E-MAIL: ethics@tbpr.org
Website: www.tbpr.org

RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: ROBERT PAUL STARNES, BPR #21022
CONTACT: EILEEN BURKHALTER SMITH
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

October 18, 2016

SULLIVAN COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On October 14, 2016, Robert Paul Starnes, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Mr. Starnes repeatedly exposed himself to an employee at his law office. In April 2016, Mr. Starnes pleaded no contest to indecent exposure (Class B misdemeanor) for his conduct.

By these acts, Mr. Starnes is in violation of Rule 8.4 (b) (criminal conduct that reflects adversely on fitness to practice) of the Rules of Professional Conduct 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.

Starnes 45753-1 rel.doc

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

IN RE: ROBERT PAUL STARNES, #21022
Respondent, an attorney licensed
to practice law in Tennessee
(Sullivan County)

FILE NO. 45753-1-ES

PUBLIC CENSURE

The above complaint was filed against Robert Paul Starnes, 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 September 9, 2016.

Mr. Starnes repeatedly exposed himself to an employee at the office over the course of three years. In April 2016, Mr. Starnes pleaded no contest to indecent exposure (Class B misdemeanor) for his conduct.

By the aforementioned acts, Mr. Starnes is in violation of Rule 8.4 (b) (criminal conduct that reflects adversely on fitness to practice) of the Rules of Professional Conduct and is hereby publicly censured for this violation.

FOR THE BOARD OF
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY


Michael King, Chair

Oct. 14, 2016
Date