January 17, 2020

**LAWRENCE COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED**

On January 17, 2020, Christi Leigh Thompson, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Ms. Thompson, an Assistant District Attorney General, made several inappropriate comments during her opening statement and closing argument in a criminal trial which were clearly impermissible and prejudicial to the defendant. Ms. Thompson’s conduct negated the defendant’s right to a fair trial and the case was reversed on appeal for prosecutorial misconduct.

By these acts, Christi Leigh Thompson, has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 3.4(e)(3) (fairness to opposing party and counsel) and 8.4(d) (conduct prejudicial to administration of justice), 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.

Thompson 58578-6 rel.doc
IN DISCIPLINARY DISTRICT VI
OF THE
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

IN RE: Christi Leigh Thompson, Respondent,
BPR# 20308, an attorney licensed to
practice law in Tennessee.
(Lawrence County)

FILE NO. 58567-6-KB

PUBLIC CENSURE

The above complaint was filed against Christi Leigh Thompson, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, alleging certain acts of misconduct. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, the Board of Professional Responsibility considered these matters at its meeting on December 13, 2019.

Ms. Thompson, an Assistant District Attorney General, made several inappropriate comments during her opening statement and closing argument in a criminal trial which were clearly impermissible and prejudicial to the defendant. Ms. Thompson’s conduct negated the defendant’s right to a fair trial and the case was reversed on appeal for prosecutorial misconduct.

By the aforementioned acts, Christi Leigh Thompson has violated Rule of Professional Conduct 3.4(e)(3) (fairness to opposing party and counsel) and 8.4(d) (conduct prejudicial to administration of justice), and is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations.

FOR THE BOARD OF
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Floyd Flippin, Chair

Date 1-17-2020