



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: CHRISTI LEIGH THOMPSON, BPR #20308
CONTACT: KEVIN D. BALKWILL
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

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

1-17-2020

Date