

**BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT  
PANEL B**

IN RE: GREGORY E. BRYANT

ARKANSAS BAR ID #82024

CPC DOCKET NO. 2002-004

**FINDINGS AND ORDER**

The formal charges of misconduct arose from the Arkansas Supreme Court case of Darwin Shields v. State of Arkansas, CR 2001-288. Mr. Henderson was convicted of Capital Murder and sentenced to life in prison without parole by the Pulaski County Circuit Court. Gregory E. Bryant, an attorney practicing law in Little Rock, Arkansas, represented Mr. Shields on appeal. Mr. Shields' appellate brief was originally due on April 23, 2001 but Mr. Bryant requested and received six (6) extensions of time to file the brief. The brief was finally filed on July 31, 2001. The brief filed on July 31 did not contain an addendum as required by Arkansas Supreme Court Rule 4-3(h). The Arkansas Attorney General's office filed a motion requesting Mr. Bryant to comply with the Supreme Court Rule and the Arkansas Supreme Court granted the motion. Mr. Bryant was required to submit a revised brief on or before November 3, 2001. A revised brief was filed by Mr. Bryant on November 5, 2001 but again failed to contain the addendum required by Ark. Sup. Ct. R. 4-3(h). The Arkansas Supreme Court Clerk refused to file the brief and provided a letter to Mr. Bryant stating that the brief failed to comply with Ark. Sup. Ct. R. 4-2(a)(8). On November 19, 2001, Mr. Bryant filed a Motion to File Belated Brief. The Arkansas Supreme Court granted the Motion to File Belated Brief on December 13, 2001, and referred the matter to the Office of Professional Conduct.

For his response, Mr. Bryant stated that when he initially filed the appellate brief on July 31, 2001, the appellate brief contained the necessary addendum required by Ark. Sup. Ct. R. 4-3(h). Following the motion filed by the Attorney General, Mr. Bryant prepared and amended appellate brief. Mr. Bryant prepared the amended appellate brief his computer system was being updated which resulted in the computer system being off-line. In his rush to get the amended appellate brief filed on time, Mr. Bryant forgot to attach the addendum that was originally attached to the original appellate brief. Mr. Bryant denied that his actions violated the alleged Model Rules of Professional Conduct.

Upon consideration of the formal complaint, Mr. Bryant's response, and the Arkansas Model Rules of Professional Conduct, the Committee on Professional Conduct finds:

1. That Mr. Bryant's conduct violated Model Rule 3.4(c) when he failed to include with the appellate brief filed on behalf of his client, Darwin Shields, an addendum as required by Arkansas Supreme Court Rule 4-2(a)(8). Model Ruel 3.4(c) requires, in pertinent part, that a lawyer shall not knowingly disobey an obligation under the rules of a tribunal.
2. That Mr. Bryant's conduct violated Model Rule 8.4(d) when his failure to include with the appellate brief an addendum as required by Arkansas Supreme Court Rule 4-2(a)(8) which resulted in a delay of the orderly and timely resolution of appellate proceedings. Model Rule 8.4(d) requires that a lawyer not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice.

WHEREFORE, it is the decision and order of the Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Professional Conduct that GREGORY E. BRYANT, Arkansas Bar ID No.82024, be, and hereby is, REPRIMANDED for his conduct in this matter.

ARKANSAS SUPREME COURT COMMITTEE

ON PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT - PANEL B

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Richard Hatfield, Chair - Panel B

Date: \_\_\_\_\_