

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

IN RE: **CALON E. BLACKBURN, JR.**

Arkansas Bar ID # 74010

CPC Docket No. 2007-093

CONSENT FINDINGS AND ORDER

The formal charges of misconduct upon which this Findings and Order is based were developed from information provided to the Committee by the Department of the Army. On May 21, 2007, the Office of Professional Conduct was notified by the Department of the Army that Respondent Calon E. Blackburn, an Arkansas-licensed attorney, who until his retirement, practiced primarily as an Army civilian attorney, had been reprimanded for making false statements in a report to U.S. and Qatari law enforcement authorities in connection with an incident that occurred on January 18, 2007. During this incident, a married female friend of Mr. Blackburn, who was also married at the time, stabbed Mr. Blackburn while at his government compound of Al Messilah in Doha, Qatar. The findings of two Army investigations indicate that Mr. Blackburn made multiple false and/or misleading statements to U.S. and Qatari authorities surrounding the circumstances of his injuries to avoid disclosing that the female friend had stabbed him. Instead, by his false report, Mr. Blackburn initially lead authorities to believe that he had been the victim of a burglary, which caused great concern because of the possibility that security at the Qatari housing compound might have been compromised.

On September 11, 2007, Mr. Blackburn was served with a formal complaint. Following his receipt of the formal complaint, Mr. Blackburn entered into discussion with the Executive Director which has resulted in an agreement to discipline by consent pursuant to Section 20.B of the Arkansas Supreme Court Procedures Regulating Professional Conduct of Attorneys at Law (2002). Upon

consideration of the formal complaint and attached exhibits, admissions made by Mr. Blackburn, the terms of the written consent, the approval of Panel A of the Committee on Professional Conduct, and the Arkansas Rules of Professional Conduct, the Committee on Professional Conduct finds:

A. Mr. Blackburn's conduct violated Rule 8.4(c) in that when asked about the circumstances surrounding the January 18, 2007, stabbing, he engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation when he knowingly and falsely informed authorities that he had been attacked by an intruder. Rule 8.4(c) provides that it is professional misconduct for a lawyer to engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.

WHEREFORE, it is the decision and order of the Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Professional Conduct, acting through its authorized Panel A, that **CALON E. BLACKBURN, JR.** Arkansas Bar ID# 74010, be, and hereby is, **REPRIMANDED** for his conduct in this matter, and he is ordered to pay \$50.00 Committee case costs, payable by cashier's check or money order to the "Clerk, Arkansas Supreme Court" and delivered to the Office of Professional Conduct within thirty (30) days of the date this Findings and Order is filed of record with the Clerk of the Arkansas Supreme Court.

ARKANSAS SUPREME COURT COMMITTEE ON
PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT - PANEL A

By: _____
Jerry D. Pinson, Chairperson

Date: _____