

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

IN RE: WALTER CRAIG LAMBERT

Arkansas Bar No. 87100

CPC Docket No. 2006-160

CONSENT FINDINGS AND ORDER

The formal charges of misconduct upon which this Findings and Order is based arose from information provided to the Committee by the Arkansas Supreme Court. The information related to the representation of German Marroquin in the case of German Marroqui v. State of Arkansas, Arkansas Supreme Court Case No. CR2004-615.

Walter Craig Lambert, Attorney at Law, Little Rock, Arkansas, represented German Marroquin on appeal from a denial of a Rule 37 Petition by the Benton County Circuit Court. The decision by the Benton County Circuit Court was filed on February 5, 2004. A timely Notice of Appeal was filed on February 13, 2004. Pursuant to Rule 5 of the Rules of Appellate Procedure—Civil, the record shall be filed with the clerk of the Arkansas Supreme Court within ninety days of the filing of the first notice of appeal. As the Notice of Appeal was filed on February 13, 2004, the record was due to be filed on May 13, 2004. The record was tendered on May 21, 2004.

On May 27, 2004, Mr. Lambert filed a Motion for Rule on the Clerk. The Arkansas Supreme Court granted the Motion for Rule on the Clerk on June 17, 2004, and the matter was referred to the Office of Professional Conduct.

Mr. Lambert approached the Executive Director of the Office of Professional Conduct with a proposed discipline by consent pursuant to Section 20B of the Procedures of the Arkansas Supreme

Court Regulating Professional Conduct of Attorneys at Law. Mr. Lambert tendered a conditional acknowledgment and admission of violation of Rule 1.3 of the Arkansas Rules of Professional Conduct. Upon the approval by the Executive Director, the proposal was submitted to Panel A of the Committee on Professional Conduct.

Upon consideration of the formal complaint and attached exhibit materials, the response, the consent proposal, and other matters before it, and the Arkansas Model Rules of Professional Conduct, Panel A of the Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Professional Conduct finds:

1. WALTER CRAIG LAMBERT failed to undertake the necessary steps to obtain an Order extending the time to file the record on appeal beyond the initial ninety (90) day limit and failed to file in a timely manner with the Arkansas Supreme Court the record of the lower court proceedings on behalf of German Marroquin, his client. Model Rule 1.3 requires that a lawyer act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client.

WHEREFORE, it is the decision and order of the Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Professional Conduct, acting through its authorized Panel A, that WALTER CRAIG LAMBERT, Arkansas Bar ID# 87100, be, and hereby is, CAUTIONED and assessed costs in the amount of FIFTY DOLLARS (\$50.00) for his conduct in this matter. The costs assessed herein shall be payable by cashier's check or money order payable to the "Clerk, Arkansas Supreme Court" delivered to the Office of Professional Conduct with 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, Chair

Date: _____