

Nashville Criminal Defense Attorney Wins Rare Appellate Case

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Nashville, TN: Jonathan W. Turner, a criminal defense attorney who practices in the Nashville, Tennessee area, won a rare reversal of a jury conviction by the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals for juror misconduct. In *State v. Montella*, a juror failed to disclose that he had a relationship with the victim's family during an aggravated sexual battery trial.

Specifically, the Court found the following:

"The record reflects that Juror 11 knew the victim's parents. We note several of the Facebook interactions occurred several years before the trial; however, the interactions clearly establish a relationship between Juror 11 and the victim's parents. Juror 11 admitted his failure to disclose this relationship to the trial court even after M.T. testified. The record reflects that none of the jurors raised their hand when asked if they knew the victim or the victim's parents".

Despite bearing the burden of proof, Mr. Turner was able to prove at a post trial hearing that juror misconduct occurred. It is rare to have a case reversed on appeal much less for juror misconduct.

Mr. Turner shared that, "This appellate decision helps ensure that future jury trials should be fair in the voir dire process. In addition, potential jurors should be mindful that in the age of social media proof of juror bias is more readily available to lawyers."

The National Trial Lawyers has named Mr. Turner to their "Top 100 National Trial Lawyers" from 2018 through 2021. For 2022, Mr. Turner received a "10 Best Attorney Award for Client Satisfaction" by the American Institute of DUI/DWI Attorneys.

Due to exceptional client reviews, AVVO.com has awarded Mr. Turner the "Client's Choice" Award several times.

In addition, Mr. Turner was awarded Expertise.com picked him as one of the best DUI attorneys in Nashville. He was selected out of a group of 256 DUI attorneys. Expertise.com wrote that they "analyzed and scored dui lawyers on more than 25 variables across six categories" to give readers a "hand-picked list of the best dui lawyers in Nashville, TN."

Expertise.com judged attorneys based on reputation, credibility, experience, availability, professionalism, and engagement.

Mr. Turner said, "I am honored to receive these types of awards in recognition of what I can do. But the most important thing is to help my clients get the best possible result from their cases."

Jonathan has been practicing DUI defense and criminal defense in several counties around Nashville including Williamson, Davidson, Rutherford, Maury, Marshall, Robertson, Hickman, Sumner, Trousdale, Wilson, and Lewis Counties, and in Franklin, Fairview, Columbia, Mount Pleasants, and Smyrna.

In addition to graduating from the University of Virginia School of Law, Jonathan Turner was a past Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney in Halifax County, Virginia. His experience and training have made him a versatile professional capable of helping clients with criminal defense cases.

BACKGROUND INFO: Admitted to practice law in Tennessee and Associate Member of the Virginia State Bar. Graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law. Website: www.turnerlawtn.com.

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