

REPORT . . . LAWYERS PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY BOARD

By

R. Walter Bachman Jr., Administrative Director
Minnesota Office of Lawyers Professional Responsibility

Reprinted from *Bench & Bar of Minnesota* (February 1979)

EDITOR'S NOTE: The fact that Walt Bachman's picture is appearing for the last time in the above Lawyer's Professional Responsibility head is not an event that we can "let just happen." It's the way he would want it, but having worked closely with him over the past few years, we'd appreciate your agreeing to a few lines of editorial license.

As a non-lawyer journalist, I came to appreciate Walt's respect for the written word; the clear, concise and meaningful sentence, devoid of the idioms of which all of us often become enamored . . . convinced that such words and phrases mark us as transcendent.

Walt would have none of it, and like the thoughtful clarity he applied to the everyday handling of the problems that crossed the desk of the Lawyers Professional Responsibility office, his monthly columns in BENCH & BAR, explained, urged and admonished.

Our relationship was both pragmatic and warm; pragmatic in my reminding him that we both had deadlines, and warm in our mutual respect for the disciplinary process and an understanding for the attorney being disciplined.

So Walt moves on to his new assignment as Chief Deputy Hennepin County Attorney. But we can't help but feel he's left some meaningful marks with the Lawyers Professional Responsibility Board. Not traditions that gather dust and entrench, but freshness of ideas and administrative skills, tempered with warmth and understanding.

We wish him well.

Jim Keeler

* * * * *

Jim Keeler noted in the February issue of *Bench and Bar* the departure of Walt Bachman as Director of Lawyers Professional Responsibility. Obviously the members of the Board share a degree of sadness in losing Walt. But we also share what should be his pride in a job well done in leading the lawyer

disciplinary system in this State to a top position in the country. Many have contributed and continue to contribute to the system, but the key as always is the kind of leadership and direction Walt Bachman provided. The Lawyers Professional Responsibility Board is grateful, Walt, and we too wish you well in your new career opportunity.

Gerald E. Magnuson, Chairman
Lawyers Professional Responsibility
Board