August 31, 2004

MEMPHIS LAWYER CENSURED

Rebecca C. Arnold, of Memphis, was publicly censured by the Board of Professional Responsibility on August 27, 2004. The censure was issued by the Board pursuant to Rule 9, Section 8 of the Rules of the Tennessee Supreme Court. Arnold did not request a hearing on the matter.

In one complaint filed against Ms. Arnold, the Board found that she neglected a client’s Chapter 13 bankruptcy matter, failed to move with reasonable diligence and promptness, and failed to properly communicate with her client, and deceived this client by falsely informing the client that she had filed a motion requested by the client. Moreover, Arnold was very dilatory in responding to Disciplinary Counsel’s inquiries. The Board noted her demonstrated pattern of dilatoriness, and her history of prior disciplinary sanctions in the areas of neglect and failure to properly communicate with clients.

As part of the censure, the Board required Arnold to enter into a TLAP contract for peer assistance to address her chronic depression for a duration to be determined by TLAP, and to ensure that TLAP provides the Board with quarterly progress reports during the period of TLAP monitoring.

JDJ: mw

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