

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: BEDE O.M. ANYANWU, BPR #24293
CONTACT: ELIZABETH GARBER
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

December 20, 2013

MADISON COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On December 18, 2013, Bede O.M. Anyanwu, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Although his wife was to be the buyer in a real estate transaction, Dr. Anyanwu represented the seller in matters related to the transaction. Additionally, Dr. Anyanwu drafted documents related to the real estate transaction which were misleading as to the true sales price of the property.

By these acts, Bede O. M. Anyanwu has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.2(d) (scope of representation), 1.7 (conflict of interest), and 8.4(a), (b), and (c) (misconduct), and is hereby Publicly Censured for this violation.

A Public Censure is a rebuke and warning to the attorney, but it does not affect the attorney's ability to practice law.

Anyanwu 35970-7 rel.doc

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IN DISCIPLINARY DISTRICT VII
OF THE
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

IN RE: Bede O.M. Anyanwu, #24293 an attorney licensed to practice law

in Tennessee.
(Madison County)

FILE NO. 35970-7-BG

PUBLIC CENSURE

The above complaint was filed against Bede O.M. Anyanwu, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, alleging certain acts of misconduct. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, the Board of Professional Responsibility considered these matters at its meeting on December 6, 2013.

The Respondent's wife was purchasing real estate which was encumbered with liens totaling \$42,000. The Respondent agreed to represent the seller in negotiating one of the liens with the lien-holder. The seller subsequently discharged the Respondent. The seller of the property went to the Respondent's office where she and the Respondent's wife signed a contract for the sale of the property for \$28,500, and signed a separate written agreement with a provision that within ten days of the sale of the property the Respondent's wife would pay six thousand and five hundred dollars (\$6,500) to the seller, less one-third for Respondent's attorney's fees; both of the executed documents were drafted by the Respondent at the seller's directive. Consequently, the HUD Settlement Statement which was prepared by an unrelated lawyer reflected a purchase price of \$28,500 rather than \$35,000. After the selling price was stated as \$28,500, one of the lien-holders released its \$16,000 lien. Ultimately, the Respondent's wife

refused to pay the additional \$6,500. In drafting the contracts which failed to reflect the true sales price, Respondent violated RPC 1.2(d) (allocation of authority), and RPC 8.4 (a), (b), & (c) (misconduct). In representing the seller when his wife was the buyer of the property, Respondent had a conflict of interest in violation of RPC 1.7.

By the aforementioned acts, Bede O. M. Anyanwu, has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.2(d), 1.7, 8.4(a), 8.4(b), and 8.4(c), and is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations.

> FOR THE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Leia Hollabaugh, Chair

<u>December 18, 2013</u>