

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

FILED

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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL  
RESPONSIBILITY

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EXEC. SEC'Y

IN RE: WILLIAM CLARK BARNES, JR., BPR NO. 11399  
Respondent, an attorney licensed  
to practice law in Tennessee  
(Maury County)

FILE NO. 33173-6-RW

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PUBLIC CENSURE

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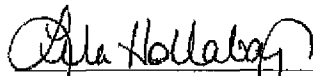
The above complaint was filed against William Clark Barnes, Jr., an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, alleging certain acts of misconduct. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, the Board of Professional Responsibility considered these matters at its meeting on December 10, 2010.

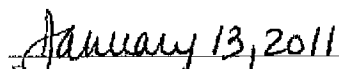
Respondent represented his client at a hearing on July 10, 2009, in which the Court ruled on terms of an amended permanent parenting plan (PPP) and child support worksheet. Adverse counsel faxed a copy of a proposed Order reflecting the court's ruling and attached PPP to Respondent on July 17 and July 23, 2009, for his review. When adverse counsel did not hear from Respondent, she scheduled it for a hearing on August 7, 2009. Respondent and adverse counsel communicated before the hearing, which he did not attend. The Order and attached PPP were submitted for entry at that time by adverse counsel, who signed Respondent's name with permission. Respondent admits that he failed to review the Order and attached PPP before they were entered. While Respondent does not admit that the Order and PPP contained errors, in a subsequent letter to adverse counsel, Respondent states that his client pointed out errors, which he was correcting in the enclosed modified

parenting plan he intended to file with the court. Also, Respondent cited "clerical errors" as grounds for the motion for modification. Respondent's contention that he did not give adverse counsel permission to sign his name to the Order is rebutted by adverse counsel's account, which is supported by documentation. Respondent failed to send the motion to modify the parenting plan he filed to his client. Respondent has past disciplinary history for similar conduct.

By the aforementioned facts, William Clark Barnes, Jr., has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1 (competence), 1.3 (diligence) and 1.4 (communication) and is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations.

FOR THE BOARD OF  
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

  
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Lela M. Hollabaugh, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date