



**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE**

10 CADILLAC DRIVE, SUITE 220
BRENTWOOD, TENNESSEE 37027
TELEPHONE: (615) 361-7500
(800) 486-5714
Website: www.tbpr.org

RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: JAY NELSON CHAMNESS, BPR #016027
CONTACT: EILEEN BURKHALTER SMITH
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

April 17, 2024

WILLIAMSON COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On April 17, 2024, Jay Nelson Chamness, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Mr. Chamness represented a plaintiff asserting employment discrimination in a case filed in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee. Over the course of 11 months, Mr. Chamness made at least four false statements to opposing counsel about personal circumstances for which he needed extensions of time. In the last instance, Mr. Chamness asked to reschedule depositions because his mother had died, and he prepared a draft "Motion for Extension of Discovery Deadline" in which he stated he needed the extension because his mother had died. Mr. Chamness sent this motion to opposing counsel for approval. Opposing counsel hired a private investigator who discovered that Mr. Chamness's mother had not died. Mr. Chamness then admitted his conduct to opposing counsel.

By these acts, Jay Nelson Chamness has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 4.1 (truthfulness in statements to others), 8.4(c) (conduct involving dishonesty) and 8.4(a) (misconduct) and is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations.

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

Chamness 69298-6 rel.doc