

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: CATHLEEN GRADY CONLEY, BPR #4567
CONTACT: STEVEN J. CHRISTOPHER
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

April 21, 2016

COFFEE COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On April 20, 2016, Cathleen Grady Conley, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

To obtain business, Ms. Conley's office staff reviewed bankruptcy court records and phoned creditors who had not yet filed a proof of claim. If the creditor expressed interest over the telephone, Ms. Conley's staff sent an email with a claim form and an agreement providing that Ms. Conley would receive one third of any money recovered from the debtor. The phone call and email did not explain that Ms. Conley would not be acting as an attorney or provide notice that the protections of the client-lawyer relationship did not exist. Ms. Conley was thereby subject to the Rules of Professional Conduct and violated the rules relating to the solicitation of potential clients.

By these acts, Ms. Conley violated Rules of Professional Conduct 5.7 (responsibilities regarding law-related services) and 7.3 (solicitation of potential clients) 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.

Conley 41402-4 rel.doc