



BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
of the
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

1101 KERMIT DRIVE, SUITE 730
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37217
TELEPHONE: (615) 361-7500
(800) 486-5714
FAX: (615) 367-2480
E-MAIL: ethics@tbpr.org
Website: www.tbpr.org

RELEASE OF INFORMATION
GARY D. COPAS, BPR #3608
CONTACT: SANDY GARRETT
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

May 8, 2006

NASHVILLE LAWYER CENSURED

On May 5, 2006, Gary D. Copas, of Nashville, Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility based on two complaints. Copas was given notice of the Censure and did not request a hearing. The first complaint concerned Copas' representation of a client in an EEOC case. Copas failed to answer discovery propounded to his client. Copas also failed to adequately communicate with the client. Copas did prepare draft discovery responses for the client but when sending these discovery responses to the client, he suggested he and the client meet to discuss the responses. The client states Copas failed to appear for this meeting and four (4) subsequent appointments.

In the second complaint, the clients paid Copas \$2,500 to handle a federal case. Copas neglected the clients' case and failed to keep the clients informed. Since retaining Copas in August, 2003, Copas has not filed the clients' case.

Copas' neglect and failure to communicate with his clients violates Rules 1.3; 1.4; 1.5 and 8.4 of the Tennessee Rules of Professional Conduct. The Censure declares Copas' actions to be improper ethical conduct but does not limit his right to practice law.

** A Public Censure is a form of discipline that declares the conduct of the lawyer improper but does not limit the lawyer's right to practice law.

Copas 28451 – 28822-5 rel.doc

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