



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: PAUL FORREST CRAIG, BPR# 18359
CONTACT: PRESTON SHIPP
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

January 19, 2010

MEMPHIS LAWYER CENSURED

On January 19, 2010, Paul Forrest Craig, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Mr. Craig failed to draft or file documents establishing a conservatorship for his client's son. Mr. Craig also failed to effectively communicate with his client regarding the status of the case. Mr. Craig repeatedly told his client and the Board that he would quickly resolve the matter, but he failed to do so.

Paul Forrest Craig violated Rule of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), and 8.4 (dishonesty). For these violations, the Board of Professional Responsibility publicly censures Paul Forrest Craig. A public censure is a rebuke and warning to the attorney, but it does not affect the attorney's ability to practice law.

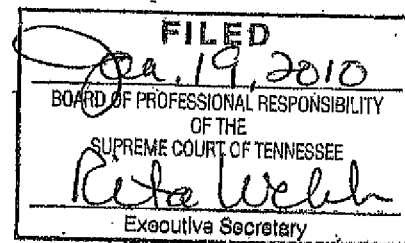
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IN DISCIPLINARY DISTRICT IX
OF THE
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE



IN RE: PAUL FORREST CRAIG, BPR NO. 18359
Respondent, an attorney licensed
to practice law in Tennessee
(Shelby County)

FILE NO. 32485c-9-PS

PUBLIC CENSURE

The above complaint was filed against Paul Forrest Craig, 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 11, 2009.

In 2004, the Complainant retained the Respondent to draft and file appropriate documents appointing the Complainant conservator of his son. In 2008, the Complainant attempted to obtain medical services for his son, but the Respondent had not filed the conservatorship. The Complainant contacted the Respondent in September of 2008, to have the error corrected. The Respondent assured the Complainant that he would remedy the situation. The Respondent repeatedly told the Complainant that the papers would be ready soon. By March of 2009, the Respondent had not provided the Complainant with the documents. Instead, the Respondent told the Complainant that he had lost the papers. Thus, in April of 2009, the Complainant gave the Respondent his copy of the documents. The Respondent again told the Complainant that everything would be straightened out soon. By May 25, 2009, no progress had been made, so the Complainant sent the Respondent a letter again requesting the corrected paperwork. When

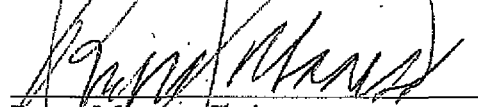
the Respondent did not respond, the Complainant filed the present disciplinary complaint on June 2, 2009.

In response to the inquiry from the Consumer Assistance Program, the Respondent stated in a letter dated July 7, 2009, that he would resolve the matter for the Complainant in two weeks. As of the end of July, the Respondent had taken no action. The Complainant, therefore, contacted the court clerk's office, and was informed that the Respondent never filed any documents on the Complainant's behalf. The Complainant sent a letter to the Respondent requesting a refund of the \$1,500 fee he paid, but the Respondent did not respond until he received a letter from Disciplinary Counsel. The Respondent ultimately refunded the Complainant's \$1,500 fee.

Respondent failed to act with reasonable diligence in violation of RPC 1.3. Second, he failed to effectively communicate with the Complainant regarding the status of the case in violation of RPC 1.4. In fact, the Respondent repeatedly lied to the Complainant by stating that he would quickly resolve the matter, and he did not to disclose to the Complainant that he had failed to file the relevant paperwork on the Complainant's behalf in violation of RPC 8.4. Finally, the Respondent lied to the Consumer Assistance Program by stating that he would resolve the matter for the Complainant in two weeks.

By the aforementioned facts, Paul Forrest Craig, has violated Rule of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), and 8.4 (dishonesty) and is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations.

FOR THE BOARD OF
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY



Roger Maness, Chair

1-13-10

Date