## IN DISCIPLINARY DISTRICT II OF THE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

IN RE: Keith Lane Edmiston, #018366 Respondent, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee (Greenville, SC) File Nos. 55202c-2-KB, 55537-2-KB, 59063-2-KB

## PUBLIC CENSURE

The above complaint was filed against Keith Lane Edmiston, #018366, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, alleging certain acts of misconduct. Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, the Board of Professional Responsibility considered this matter at its meeting on September 8, 2023.

Mr. Edmiston accepted a \$600 fee from a client to defend him against a lawsuit filed on a sworn account. Mr. Edmiston failed to appear at the hearing on the matter. Mr. Edmiston then accepted \$1,125 to appeal the matter. Mr. Edmiston filed no appeal and took no further action for the client. A few weeks later Mr. Edmiston placed his license on disability inactive status.

In another client file, Mr. Edmiston accepted a filing fee of \$335 for a client for whom he filed bankruptcy. Mr. Edmiston did not pay the filing fee to the court, did not place it in trust, and did not return it to the client. Mr. Edmiston's former law partner eventually paid the filing fee to the court.

In a third client file, Mr. Edmiston filed bankruptcy for another client but was not able to complete the representation prior to placing his license on disability inactive status. Mr. Edmiston failed to respond to multiple inquiries from the client about the matter. Another attorney completed the client's bankruptcy.

By the aforementioned acts, Keith Lane Edmiston, #018366, is in violation of Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 1.15 (safekeeping funds), 1.16 (termination of representation), 3.4 (fairness to opposing party), and 8.4 (prejudice to the administration of justice). He is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations with the condition that he make restitution to the first client of \$1,725 and restitution to the former law partner of \$335 within 90 days.

## FOR THE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Jennifer S. Hagerman, Chair

September 26, 2023 Date