

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

IN RE: Michael L. Freeman, BPR No. 028698
Respondent, an attorney licensed
to practice law in Tennessee
(Davidson County)

FILE No. 70732c-5-ES

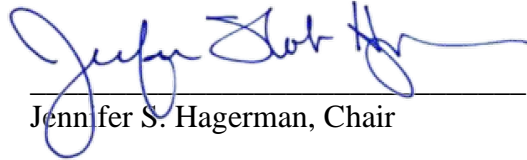
PUBLIC CENSURE

The above complaint was filed against Michael L. Freeman, 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 June 9, 2023.

Mr. Freeman was appointed by the trial court to represent a client on a petition for post-conviction. After the hearing on the petition, Mr. Freeman timely filed an appeal of the denial of the petition. Mr. Freeman did not timely file his appellate brief. After notice from the court, he filed an untimely motion for an extension of time which was granted. Mr. Freeman missed this deadline, and filed an untimely motion to stay the appeal, which was denied. The court provided another deadline for the filing of the brief, with which Mr. Freeman did not comply. After the court set an additional deadline with which Mr. Freeman did not comply, the court ordered the brief to be filed on a particular date with an accompanying motion addressing the lateness. Mr. Freeman filed the brief but did not include an explanation in his motion. Mr. Freeman's brief was eventually accepted by the court.

By the aforementioned acts, Michael L. Freeman is in violation of Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 3.4(c) (fairness to opposing party and counsel) and 8.4(d) (prejudice to the administration of justice). and is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations.

FOR THE BOARD OF
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY



Jennifer S. Hagerman, Chair

July 31, 2023

Date