

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION RE: ISAIAH SKIP GANT, BPR #025790 CONTACT: EILEEN BURKHALTER SMITH BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY 615-361-7500

October 7, 2022

DAVIDSON COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On October 6, 2022, Isaiah Skip Gant, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Mr. Gant represented a criminal defendant who was convicted of the crimes with which he was charged. After the conviction of his client, Mr. Gant spoke with attorneys for another defendant charged with related crimes, and Mr. Gant told those attorneys that their client was innocent of the charges. This implied that Mr. Gant's client was not innocent. While a motion for new trial was pending for his own client, Mr. Gant had an *ex parte* meeting with the presiding judge and told him that Mr. Gant believed the other defendant was innocent of the charges. Mr. Gant did not have permission of his client to reveal information related to the representation and did not inform his client of these conversations. Mr. Gant continued to represent his client after these conversations.

During the representation of his criminal client, Mr. Gant became aware that a document had been obtained by an attorney for another defendant which contained information related to the representation of Mr. Gant's client. Mr. Gant took some steps to retrieve the document, but he did not report the conduct of the other attorney to the Board of Professional Responsibility for violating the Rules of Professional Conduct.

By these acts, Isaiah Skip Gant has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.4 (communication), 1.6 (confidentiality), 1.7 (conflict of interest), 3.5 (impartiality of the tribunal), 8.3 (reporting professional misconduct) and 8.4(d) (prejudice to the administration of justice) 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.

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