



BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
of the
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

LANCE B. BRACY
CHIEF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

LAURA L. CHASTAIN
DEPUTY CHIEF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

BEVERLY P. SHARPE
CONSUMER COUNSEL/DIRECTOR

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

WILLIAM W. HUNT, III
CHARLES A. HIGH
SANDY GARRETT
JESSE D. JOSEPH
JAMES A. VICK
THERESA M. COSTONIS
DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: CHARLES GORDON, BPR #01537
CONTACT: WILLIAM W. HUNT, III
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

October 22, 2002

POWELL, TENNESSEE ATTORNEY CENSURED

Charles Gordon, an attorney from Powell, Tennessee, received a public censure on October 14, 2002, from the Board of Professional Responsibility alleging certain acts of misconduct. In compliance with the Supreme Court's Rule 9, the Board considered these matters and determined that a public censure was appropriate.

Lena Ware Faith, the mother of the complaining party in this matter, died in September, 1999. She left a one page will leaving her property to her two children and stepdaughter. There was no disagreement with the distribution. The estate consisted of a checking account, two CD's, and a Paine Webber account. There was only one claim against the estate (to a physician) which Gordon failed to pay, resulting in this claim being turned over to a bill collector. In May, 2000, Gordon told one daughter that he was having trouble with the Paine Webber account. She identified a specific person at Paine Webber who could clear the matter up. Gordon stated that Paine Webber had sent him a check which he never received and he had to get them to issue a second check. The Tennessee Department of Revenue notified Gordon in July, 2000, that no taxes were due. From 2000 – 2001 the heirs wrote Gordon several letters asking him to close the estate. The complaint was filed with the Board of Professional Responsibility in February, 2001, and Gordon still did not close the estate for five months after the complaint was filed. By his conduct in these matters, the Board found that Gordon violated Disciplinary Rule 6-101(A)(3) – neglect of a legal matter entrusted to him, and the appropriate sanction was a public censure.

WWH:mw

Gordon 23567 rel.doc