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

FILED

MOLCLA 17 2010

BDARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

OF THE

SUPPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

CLECUTURE

EXECUTIVE Secretary

IN RE: CLINTON EUGENE HAGAMAN BPR NO. 22108

10. 221

FILE NO. 26386-2(K)-TC

Respondent, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee

## PUBLIC CENSURE

The above complaint was filed against Clinton Hagaman, 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 this matter at its meeting on March 12, 2010.

Respondent worked as an associate attorney for Tommy K. Hindman. In June, 2003, Respondent informed Mr. Hindman that he had a substance abuse problem and intended to leave town to seek professional treatment for an undetermined length of time. Subsequent to Respondent's departure, Mr. Hindman was confronted by Derik Price, who alleged that he had paid Respondent \$10,000.00 for representation in a felony theft case. Mr. Price provided Mr. Hindman with a letter from Respondent indicating that a \$10,000.00 retainer had been received for representation of Mr. Price. Mr. Hindman could not confirm whether or not Mr. Price had actually paid Respondent, but nevertheless agreed to represent Mr. Price through the conclusion of his criminal matter. Respondent states that Mr. Price was the individual who provided narcotics to him. Mr. Price wanted to deceive his father who had grown curious about his spending of a substantial sum of personal funds. Mr. Price had spent the money on narcotics. Mr. Price requested a letter from Respondent indicating that \$10,000.00 had been paid for legal

services attributed to his felony drug charge. Respondent states that he initially declined to write the letter, but later relinquished fearing that he would lose his narcotic contact. Respondent denies that any money was exchanged between Mr. Price and himself. Mr. Hindman filed the disciplinary complaint against Respondent, but recently acknowledged that there are no outstanding complaints or unresolved issues related to Respondent's previous employment with his firm or his representation of any clients.

By the aforementioned facts, Clinton Hagaman, has violated Rule of Professional Conduct RPC 8.4(c) and is hereby Publically Censured for this violation.

FOR THE BOARD OF

PROFESSIONAL RÉSPONSIBILIT

Roger Maness, Chair

3-16-10

Date