

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

IN RE: Lawrence Buford Hammet, II, Respondent,
BPR# 13816, an attorney licensed to
practice law in Tennessee.
(Davidson County)

FILE NO. 40850-5-KB

PUBLIC CENSURE

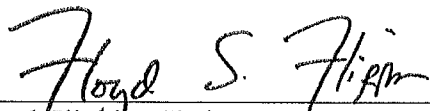
The above complaint was filed against Lawrence Buford Hammet, II, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, alleging certain acts of misconduct. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, the Board of Professional Responsibility considered these matters at its meeting on December 11, 2020.

Mr. Hammet withdrew disputed funds from his client trust account and paid himself a fee which exceeded the amount that his client alleged was agreed upon at the commencement of the representation. The client filed a civil suit against Mr. Hammet which was appealed after trial. The Court of Appeals found that Mr. Hammet failed to keep the disputed funds in his client trust account until the dispute was resolved and that Mr. Hammet improperly calculated his fees which were unreasonable. The Court of Appeals awarded judgment to the client in the amount of \$67,335.69 and remanded the case to the trial court for a determination of pre-judgment interest. The trial court subsequently awarded pre-judgment interest to the client in an additional amount of \$22,092.10.

By the aforementioned acts, Lawrence Buford Hammet, II has violated Rule of Professional Conduct 1.5 (fees) and 1.15(e) (safekeeping property) and is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations. As a condition of the Public Censure, Mr. Hammet shall satisfy the

judgments against him on or before January 19, 2021.

FOR THE BOARD OF
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Handwritten signature of Floyd S. Flippin in cursive script.

Floyd Flippin, Chair

Handwritten date 1-20-21.

Date