



**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE**

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: MARGARET BEEBE HELD, BPR #018033
CONTACT: JERRY MORGAN
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

April 14, 2020

KNOX COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On April 13, 2020, Margaret Beebe Held, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court conditioned upon payment of fees to the Board of Professional Responsibility and restitution to her client.

The Board of Professional Responsibility filed a Petition for Discipline against Ms. Held pursuant to Rule 9 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. Ms. Held had a conflict of interest between her client and her client's expert witness. Ms. Held self-reported the incident and made a good faith effort to mitigate adverse consequences. Ms. Held was ordered to pay the costs of the disciplinary proceeding and restitution to her client.

Ms. Held executed a conditional guilty plea in which she acknowledged her misconduct violated Tennessee Rules of Professional Conduct 1.4 (communication) and 1.7 (conflict of interest: current clients) 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.

Held 3022-2 rel.doc

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

FILED

04/13/2020

Clerk of the
Appellate Courts

IN RE: MARGARET BEEBE HELD, BPR #018033

An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Knox County)

No. M2020-00568-SC-BAR-BP
BOPR No. 2019-3022-2-JM

ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Margaret Beebe Held on July 23, 2019; upon Answer to Petition for Discipline filed by Ms. Held on August 26, 2019; upon entry of a Conditional Guilty Plea filed by Ms. Held on February 18, 2020; upon an Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea entered on February 20, 2020; upon service of the Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea upon Ms. Held by the Executive Secretary of the Board on February 21, 2020; upon consideration and approval by the Board on March 13, 2020; and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which the Court approves the Order of the Hearing Panel and adopts the Hearing Panel's Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea as the Court's Order.

IT IS, THEREFORE, CONSIDERED, ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED BY THE COURT THAT:

- (1) Ms. Held is publicly censured, pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.4.
- (2) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.1, this Order shall be effective upon entry.
- (3) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3(d), Ms. Held shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$1,270.00 within ninety (90) days. In addition, Ms. Held shall pay restitution to Edna Gergel in the amount of \$3,540.00 within ninety (90) days. In the event Ms. Held fails to pay the Board expenses and costs or restitution to Ms. Gergel as required herein, the

Board may reopen its disciplinary file and conduct further proceedings pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.8.

(4) Ms. Held shall pay to the Clerk of this Court the costs incurred herein, within ninety (90) days of the entry of this Order, for all of which execution may issue if necessary.

(5) The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this discipline to be published as required by Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.11.

PER CURIAM