

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

IN RE: MARY BELLE LANGFORD, BPR NO. 20169,  
Respondent, an attorney licensed  
to practice law in Tennessee  
(Davidson County)

FILE NO. 51067-5-KB

---

PUBLIC CENSURE

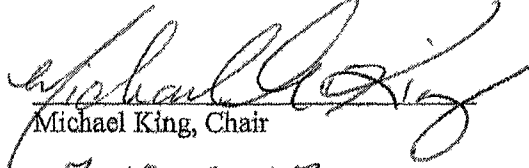
---

The above complaint was filed against Mary Belle Langford, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, alleging certain acts of misconduct. Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, the Board of Professional Responsibility considered this matter at its meeting on June 9, 2017.

Ms. Langford failed to adequately communicate with her client, Steven Sutherland, and failed to submit written discovery responses to the opposing party which had been timely forwarded to Ms. Langford by Mr. Sutherland. Ms. Langford's neglect and failure to appear in court led to a default judgment granted to the opposing party and sanctions assessed against Mr. Sutherland in the amount of \$3,250.00.

By these acts, Mary Belle Langford has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 3.2 (expediting litigation), and 8.4(d) (conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice), and is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations. As a condition of the Public Censure, Ms. Langford shall reimburse to Mr. Sutherland the sanctions assessed against him in the amount of \$3,250.00 within 180 days.

FOR THE BOARD OF  
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael King", written over a horizontal line.

Michael King, Chair

7-10-2017

Date