



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: DANA L. NERO, BPR #25042
CONTACT: M. PRESTON SHIPP
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

July 27, 2016

DAVIDSON COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On July 26, 2016, Dana L. Nero, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Ms. Nero represented a client in two separate criminal cases. The prosecution made a plea offer of concurrent sentences of two years and six years. Ms. Nero erroneously believed that if her client pled guilty to a sentence of six years, he would be automatically released upon serving 30 percent of the sentence. She assured her client that because he had been incarcerated for 27 months, he would go home shortly after entering his pleas. In fact, a person serving a sentence of six years must be released by the parole board. Ms. Nero admits that she gave her client erroneous advice about when he would be released upon pleading guilty.

By these acts, Dana L. Nero has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1 (competence) and 1.3 (diligence) and is hereby Publicly Censured for this violation.

A Public Censure is a rebuke and warning to the attorney, but it does not affect the attorney's ability to practice law.

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

IN RE: DANA L. NERO, BPR NO. 25042
Respondent, an attorney licensed
to practice law in Tennessee
(Davidson County)

FILE NO. 41955c-5-PS

PUBLIC CENSURE

The above complaint was filed against Dana L. Nero, #25042, 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 these matters at its meeting on June 10, 2016.

Ms. Nero represented a client in two separate criminal cases. The prosecution made a plea offer of concurrent sentences of two years and six years. The Respondent erroneously believed that if her client pled guilty to a sentence of six years, he would be automatically released upon serving 30 percent of the sentence. She assured her client that because he had been incarcerated for 27 months, he would go home shortly after entering his plea. In fact, a person serving a sentence of six years must be released by the parole board. The Respondent's client accordingly pled guilty, but instead of being released, he was shipped to a prison. The Respondent admits she gave her client erroneous advice about when he would be released upon pleading guilty.

By the aforementioned acts, Dana L. Nero has violated Rule of Professional Conduct 1.1 (competence) and 1.3 (diligence) and is hereby Publicly Censured for this violation.

FOR THE BOARD OF
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY



Michael King, Chair



Date