



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: HUGH REID POLAND, III, BPR NO. 019154
CONTACT: ERIC ANDREW FULLER
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

June 23, 2023

MONTGOMERY COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On June 23, 2023, Hugh Reid Poland, III, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Supreme Court of Tennessee and was ordered to pay the costs and fees of the Board of Professional Responsibility.

Mr. Poland represented a client who settled a custody dispute at mediation, which settlement set forth, in part, a new parenting and visitation arrangement for a trial period of 90 days and specifically required Mr. Poland to draft the required agreed order, parenting plan, and child support worksheet. Mr. Poland failed to respond to communications from his opposing counsel regarding the required documents and failed to draft the documents even after a Motion to Enforce the Mediation was filed.

Opposing counsel ultimately filed the required documents, which included inaccurate statements about Mr. Poland's client, and Mr. Poland approved the same for filing without notifying his client or obtaining her approval. Finally, Mr. Poland made several misrepresentations to his client, in writing, that he would take specific actions to address her concerns; however, Mr. Poland took no further action and ultimately stopped responding to his client's communications and requests for information. Mr. Poland executed a conditional guilty plea acknowledging his conduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 8.4(c) (misrepresentation), and 8.4(d) (prejudice to the administration of justice).

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