



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: JOSHUA HOWARD POLK, BPR #21647**  
**CONTACT: KEVIN D. BALKWILL**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

December 22, 2015

**WAYNE COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED**

On December 21, 2015, Joshua Howard Polk, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Mr. Polk represented clients in two separate matters in which a concurrent conflict of interest existed. In the first matter, Mr. Polk failed to obtain a conflict waiver after receiving the informed consent of his clients. In the other matter, Mr. Polk represented clients who were adverse to each other in the same litigation.

By these acts, Joshua Howard Polk has violated Rule of Professional Conduct 1.2 (scope of representation), 1.4 (communication), 1.7 (conflict of interest), and 8.4(a) and (d) (misconduct), 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.

Polk 37733-6 rel.doc

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

N RE: JOSHUA HOWARD POLK, BPR NO. 21647,  
Respondent, an attorney licensed  
to practice law in Tennessee  
(Wayne County)

FILE NO. 37733-6-KB

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PUBLIC CENSURE

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The above complaint was filed against Joshua Howard Polk, 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 September 11, 2015.

Mr. Polk filed a parentage action on behalf of the proposed father and mother as joint petitioners without first obtaining approval from the mother. Mr. Polk also had the proposed father named as primary residential parent of the child at issue without the prior approval of the mother. Mr. Polk also filed a dependency and neglect petition on behalf of the same parties as joint petitioners when their positions were adverse to one another.

By these acts, Joshua Howard Polk has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.2 (scope of representation), 1.4 (communication), 1.7 (conflict of interest), and 8.4(a) and (d) (misconduct) and is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations.

FOR THE BOARD OF  
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

  
Michael King, Chair

December 21, 2015  
Date