



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: SUMMER M. RHODEN, BPR #33802
CONTACT: STEVEN J. CHRISTOPHER
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

July 2, 2019

SHELBY COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On July 1, 2019, Summer M. Rhoden, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Ms. Rhoden's son was charged with first-degree murder on July 6, 2017. He appeared at Ms. Rhoden's home on the afternoon of July 6, 2017. Ms. Rhoden failed to contact law enforcement or facilitate his surrender until the following morning. Ms. Rhoden was charged as an accessory after the fact as a result of this delay. Ms. Rhoden pled guilty on March 8, 2019 to a reduced misdemeanor charge of criminal attempt.

By these acts, Summer M. Rhoden, has violated Rule of Professional Conduct 8.4(b) (criminal conduct) 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.

Rhoden 54085-9 rel.doc

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

IN RE: SUMMER M. RHODEN, BPR NO. 033802
Respondent, an attorney licensed
to practice law in Tennessee
(Shelby County)

FILE NO. 54085-9-SC

PUBLIC CENSURE

The above complaint was filed against Summer M. Rhoden, #033802, 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 14, 2019.

Ms. Rhoden's son, Sebastian Vaughn, was charged with first-degree murder on July 6, 2017. Mr. Vaughn appeared at Ms. Rhoden's home on the afternoon of July 6, 2017. Ms. Rhoden failed to contact law enforcement or facilitate Mr. Vaughn's surrender until the following morning. Ms. Rhoden was charged as an accessory after the fact as a result of this delay. Ms. Rhoden pled guilty on March 8, 2019 to a reduced misdemeanor charge of criminal attempt.

By these acts, Summer M. Rhoden has violated Rule of Professional Conduct 8.4(b) (criminal conduct) and is hereby Publicly Censured for this violation.

FOR THE BOARD OF
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Floyd S. Flippin

Floyd S. Flippin, Chair

7-1-19

Date