



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: ELIZABETH ANN SHIPLEY, BPR #32721
CONTACT: STEVEN J. CHRISTOPHER
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

July 16, 2019

PUTMAN COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On July 16, 2019, Elizabeth Ann Shipley, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

This public censure arose out of two disciplinary complaints brought against Ms. Shipley. In the first disciplinary complaint, Ms. Shipley was tardy in the payment of restitution to a former client which had been made a condition of an earlier public censure.

The second disciplinary complaint arose out of an overdraft on Ms. Shipley's trust account. On October 22, 2018, Ms. Shipley received \$500 from clients in connection with a custody case. The funds were for the pre-payment of the clients' portion of attorney fees to the court appointed guardian ad litem. Ms. Shipley initially deposited the funds into escrow, but later transferred them to her operating account. On December 3, 2018, Ms. Shipley instructed her assistant to forward the funds to the Court Clerk's Office but failed to specify that the funds were no longer in escrow. Ms. Shipley's assistant issued a check to the Court Clerk's Office on the trust account, resulting in the overdraft.

By these acts, Elizabeth Ann Shipley has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.15 (safeguarding client property) and 8.4(d) (conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice) 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.

Shipley 55081-4; 59310n-4 rel.doc