

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

IN RE: ELIZABETH ANN SHIPLEY, BPR NO. 32721
Respondent, an attorney licensed
to practice law in Tennessee
(Putnam County)

FILE NOS. 55081-4-SC
59310n-4-SC

PUBLIC CENSURE

The above complaints were filed against Elizabeth Ann Shipley, #32721, 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 meetings on December 14, 2018 and June 14, 2019.

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.

FOR THE BOARD OF
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY



Floyd S. Flippin, Chair

7-16-2019

Date