



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: NICHOLAS LEE SURRATT, 035010
CONTACT: STEVEN J. CHRISTOPHER
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

October 20, 2025

HARDIN COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On October 20, 2025, Nicholas Lee Surratt, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Mr. Surratt represented a criminal defendant in appealing a conviction. Mr. Surratt failed to file the trial court transcript within the time prescribed by applicable rules of court. Mr. Surratt failed to respond to notices from the Court of Criminal Appeals regarding the failure to file the transcript, which resulted in a show cause proceeding where Mr. Surratt was found in willful contempt. Mr. Surratt also failed to comply with subsequent orders entered by the Court of Criminal Appeals establishing deadlines for the filing of his client's principal brief.

By these acts, Mr. Surratt has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1 (*competence*), 1.3 (*diligence*), 3.2 (*expediting litigation*), 3.4(c) (*knowing violation of an obligation under the rules of a tribunal*), 8.4(d) (*conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice*), and 8.4(g) (*violation of a court order*) 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.

Surratt 100936-7 rel.doc