



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

IN RE: NICHOLAS LEE SURRATT, #035010  
Respondent, an attorney licensed to  
practice law in Tennessee  
(Hardin County)

FILE NO. 101311-2025-7-SC-INV

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**PUBLIC CENSURE**

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The above complaint was filed against Nicholas Lee Surratt, #035010, an attorney licensed in Tennessee, alleging certain acts of misconduct. Pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, the Board of Professional Responsibility considered these matters at its meeting on December 12, 2025.

Mr. Surratt agreed to represent a client in transmitting a demand letter in connection with a contract dispute. The client paid a \$350 fee for drafting and transmittal of the demand letter. Mr. Surratt never drafted the demand letter and took no other action for the client. Mr. Surratt also failed to respond to the client's inquiries about the status of the representation and never refunded the \$350 fee.

By these acts, Mr. Surratt has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (*diligence*), 1.4 (*communication*), 1.15 (*safekeeping property and funds*), and 1.16(d)(*protecting a client's interests following discharge*) and is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations. The Public Censure shall be conditioned on Mr. Surratt's payment of \$350 restitution to the client within sixty (60) days of the date of the Public Censure.

FOR THE BOARD OF  
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

R. Culver Schmid  
R. Culver Schmid, Chair

January 6, 2026  
Date