

## IN DISCIPLINARY DISTRICT I OF THE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE

SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

IN RE: MICHAEL JAMES THOMPSON, BPR #028041 FILE NO. 100732-2024-0-SC-INV

Respondent, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee (Christian County, Kentucky)

PUBLIC CENSURE

The above complaint was filed against Michael James Thompson, #028041, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee and Kentucky, 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 13, 2025.

Mr. Thompson represented a client in a custody proceeding in Kentucky state court. Mr. Thompson exchanged sexualized communications with his client during the representation, evidencing a concurrent conflict of interest. Mr. Thompson also communicated with his client about the subject matter of the custody proceeding through Instagram messaging without any privacy controls.

By these acts, Mr. Thompson has violated Kentucky Rules of Professional Conduct 1.6 (protecting confidential information) and 1.7(a)(2)(concurrent conflict of interest) and is hereby Publicly Censured these violations.

> FOR THE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

R. Culver Schmid, Chair