

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

IN RE: CYNTHIA JEANNE TOBIN, BPR NO. 016318  
Respondent, an attorney licensed  
to practice law in Tennessee  
(Shelby County)

FILE NO. 74158-9-CP

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PUBLIC CENSURE

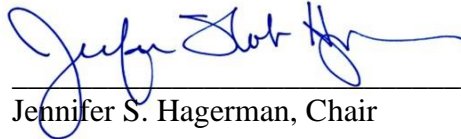
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The above complaint was filed against Cynthia Jeanne Tobin, #016318, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, alleging certain acts of misconduct. Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, the Board of Professional Responsibility considered these matters at its meeting on September 13, 2024.

Ms. Tobin is a Certified Estate Planning Specialist. From August 2004 to 2023, Ms. Tobin provided estate planning services for a client, including drafting multiple Living Trusts. At the client's request, Ms. Tobin listed herself in the estate documents as beneficiary of a substantial gift of \$30,000 and a necklace. Ms. Tobin knew that she could not prepare an estate document bequeathing a substantial gift to herself, but did not advise the client of this restriction nor decline representation to avoid ethical violations. Rather, Ms. Tobin listed her law partner as the drafter of the estate documents without his knowledge and presented the documents to the client for signing, thereby knowingly making a false statement of fact and engaging in fraudulent, deceptive, or misleading conduct.

By these acts, Ms. Tobin has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.8(c) (conflict of interest), 1.16(a)(1) (declining or terminating representation), 2.1 (advisor), 4.1(a) (truthfulness in statements to others), and 8.4(c) (misconduct) and is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations.

FOR THE BOARD OF  
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY



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Jennifer S. Hagerman, Chair

October 3, 2024

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Date