



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: CYNTHIA JEANNE TOBIN, BPR #016318
CONTACT: TIFFANY D. TANT-SHAFER
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

October 4, 2024

SHELBY COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On October 3, 2024, Cynthia Jeanne Tobin, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

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 this violation.

A Public Censure is a rebuke and warning to the attorney, but it does not affect the attorney's ability to practice law.

Tobin 74158-9 rel.doc