

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION RE: INEZ BEATRICE WARNER, BPR #028289 CONTACT: DOUGLAS R. BERGERON BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY 615-361-7500

October 7, 2021

SHELBY COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On October 7, 2021, Inez Beatrice Warner, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from Supreme Court of Tennessee conditioned upon the payment of restitution to three (3) clients totaling \$8,775.00 and the payment of fees to the Board of Professional Responsibility.

Ms. Warner represented four (4) clients who filed complaints regarding her lack of diligence, lack of communication with them, failure to properly account of settlement proceeds, and unclear fee practices, including fee arrangements incompatible with Ms. Warner's stated fee agreements. The Hearing Panel found in three of the four complaints of Ms. Warner's conduct, by failing to stay in contact with clients and failing to satisfy medical liens, she violated RPC 1.3 (Diligence); the Hearing Panel found in all complaints that Ms. Warner's conduct, by failing to communicate with the clients and failing to provide notice of her office relocation, violated RPC 1.4 (Communication); the Hearing Panel found in three of the four complaints that Ms. Warner's conduct, by charging unreasonable fees and charging a nonrefundable fee without a written agreement, violated RPC 1.5 (Fees); the Hearing Panel found in one complaint that Ms. Warner's conduct, by failing to maintain adequate records concerning fund distribution, violated RPC 1.15 (Safekeeping of Property and Funds); and that Ms. Warner's conduct, pursuant to violations of RPC 1.3, 1.4, 1.5 and 1.15, violated RPC 8.4 (Misconduct).

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

Warner 2832-9 rel.doc