



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: JOSEPH PAUL WEYANT, BPR #022587
CONTACT: EILEEN BURKHALTER SMITH
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

January 26, 2024

DAVIDSON COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On January 26, 2024, Joseph Paul Weyant, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Mr. Weyant was hired to file a petition to probate a client's late fiancé's estate. At the time the fiancé died, the fiancé was a beneficiary of his mother's estate, and it was anticipated that he would receive a distribution from that estate. Mr. Weyant filed a petition to probate the client's fiancé's estate, but then he filed a motion to close the estate prior to a distribution from the mother's estate. Mr. Weyant then terminated the representation with the client. The client hired another attorney to reopen the late fiancé's estate and paid that attorney fees of \$3,102.00. After the fiancé's estate was reopened, it received the distribution from the fiancé's mother's estate.

By these acts, Joseph P. Weyant, has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1 (competence), 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), and 8.4(d) (prejudice to the administration of justice) and is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations with the condition that he make restitution to the client of \$3,102.00 within 90 days.

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

Weyant 72616-5 rel.doc