

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

IN RE: Joseph P. Weyant, #022587
Respondent, an attorney licensed
to practice law in Tennessee

FILE No. 72616-5-ES

PUBLIC CENSURE

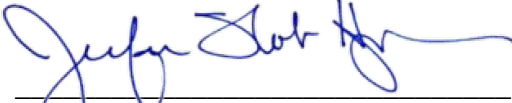
The above complaint was filed against Joseph P. Weyant, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, alleging certain acts of misconduct. Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, the Board of Professional Responsibility considered this matter at its meeting on December 8, 2023.

Respondent 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. Respondent filed a petition to probate the client's fiancé's estate, and then eight months later, he asked the client to verify a petition to close the fiancé's estate. At that time, no distribution had been made from the fiancé's mother's estate. The client signed the petition to close the estate, but she did not understand what she was signing. Respondent closed the fiancé's estate. Respondent 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. After the fiancé's estate was reopened, it received the distribution from the fiancé's mother's estate.

By the aforementioned acts, Joseph P. Weyant, is in violation of 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 within 90 days.

FOR THE BOARD OF
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY



Jennifer S. Hagerman, Chair

January 26, 2024

Date