



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: TIMOTHY JOEL WILLIAMS, BPR #10159**  
**CONTACT: KEVIN D. BALKWILL**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

April 11, 2018

**MEMPHIS LAWYER CENSURED**

On April 10, 2018, Timothy Joel Williams, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Mr. Williams represented a client in a municipal court in Mississippi without receiving permission to appear *pro hac vice* and further represented the client in a Mississippi Circuit Court case without fully complying with the Mississippi *pro hac vice* rules. Mr. Williams associated a Mississippi attorney to assist in the case, but did not inform his client of the associated attorney's participation in the case until after the case had been transferred to Circuit Court. Mr. Williams also claimed that his fee was non-refundable but he did not have a written fee agreement signed by his client.

By these acts, Timothy Joel Williams has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.4 (communication), 1.5(f) (fees), 3.4(c) (knowingly disobeying an obligation under rules of a tribunal), 5.5(a) (unauthorized practice of law), and 8.4(a)(d) (misconduct) and is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations. As a condition of the Public Censure, Mr. Williams is required to refund \$2,500.00 in fees to his former client.

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