



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

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

October 11, 2019

**SHELBY COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED**

On October 11, 2019, Timothy Joel Williams, an attorney licensed to practice law in Shelby County, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Mr. Williams failed to safeguard client funds designated for payment to an expert for an evaluation of a client's case. Mr. Williams instead provided at least a portion of the funds to an inactive attorney employed with Mr. Williams' law firm for his opinion about the merits of the case. Although Mr. Williams later reimbursed the funds to the client, Mr. Williams' reimbursement check was not drawn on his client trust account.

By these acts, Timothy Joel Williams has violated Rule of Professional Conduct 1.15 (safekeeping property), 5.3 (responsibilities regarding non-lawyer assistance), and 5.5(a) (unauthorized practice of law) and is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations.

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

Williams 60407-9 rel.doc