



**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

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

IN RE: Timothy Joel Williams, Respondent,
BPR# 10159, an attorney licensed
to practice law in Tennessee.
(Shelby County)

FILE NO. 60407-9-KB

PUBLIC CENSURE

The above complaint was filed against Timothy Joel Williams, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, alleging certain acts of misconduct. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, the Board of Professional Responsibility considered these matters at its meeting on September 13, 2019.

Mr. Williams failed to safeguard client funds designated for payment to an expert for an evaluation of the 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 the aforementioned 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.

FOR THE BOARD OF
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Floyd S. Flippin

Floyd Flippin, Chair

10-11-19

Date