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 RESPONSIBI

Floyd Flippin, Chair