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

<u>**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**</u>
<u>**RE: JOSEPH WEYANT, BPR # 22587**</u>
<u>**CONTACT: KEVIN BALKWILL**</u>
<u>**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**</u>
<u>**615-361-7500**</u>

April 29, 2010

## <u>CLARKSVILLE LAWYER CENSURED</u>

On April 28, 2010, Joseph Weyant, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Weyant represented to a client that he would help protect his business while the client was deployed overseas in Iraq. To that end, Weyant acted as gatekeeper in giving authorization to handle the client's real estate transactions. Weyant fell victim to fraud by entering into a proposed lucrative real estate transaction at the advice of an individual who had previously handled transactions for the client. Weyant failed to verify the circumstances surrounding the real estate transaction and entered into a loan agreement on behalf of the client which contained terms adverse to the client and without the client's express consent. Weyant's conduct caused substantial monetary loss to the client and has resulted in the filing of civil litigation against the client.

By his actions, Joseph Weyant has violated Rule of Professional Conduct 1.1 (competence), 1.2 (scope of representation), 1.4 (communication), 1.7 (conflict of interest), 1.8(f) (conflict of interest), and 2.1 (failure to exercise independent professional judgment). For this violation, the Board of Professional Responsibility publicly censures Joseph Weyant. A public censure is a rebuke and warning to the attorney, but it does not affect the attorney's ability to practice law.

Weyant 31532-6 rel.doc

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