



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: MATTHEW V. PORTER, BPR# 22240
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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

July 22, 2009

SHELBY COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On July 20, 2009, Matthew V. Porter, licensed in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, the Board considered this matter at its meeting on June 12, 2009.

Porter worked on personal injury cases for Complainant attorney as an independent contractor of Complainant's firm. In early March and into early April, 2008, management discovered that Porter had somehow obtained and used the Complainant's and another employee's password, which gave Porter access to information from the case management system, including client lists, files, and management reports. There was no evidence that file information was actually exported to an outside source and Complainant conceded that no files or information were exported.

While checking the computer records generated by a key logger, the Complainant became aware that Porter was planning to leave the firm. Despite the fact that Complainant changed the passwords of the management team several times over the course of March and into April, Porter still managed to read the interoffice messages of the management team by obtaining access through one of the case managers. Porter used the case manager's password to log into the system from his own computer. Porter also obtained the passwords of the management team. Computer records show Porter logged in at various times over the course of several weeks to monitor management interoffice messages.

By the aforementioned facts, Matthew V. Porter, has violated Rule of Professional Conduct 8.4(c) (dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation) and is hereby Publicly Censured for this violation.

For this violation, the Supreme Court of Tennessee publicly censures Matthew V. Porter. A public censure is a rebuke and warning to the attorney, but it does not affect the attorney's ability to practice law.

Porter 31151-9 rel.doc

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