

NORTH CAROLINA  
WAKE COUNTY

BEFORE THE  
GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR  
11G0632

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IN THE MATTER OF	)	
	)	
Shani Davis-Harrison,	)	REPRIMAND
Attorney At Law	)	
	)	

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On January 26, 2012 the Grievance Committee of the North Carolina State Bar met and considered the grievance filed against you by J. M. N.

Pursuant to Section .0113(a) of the Discipline and Disability Rules of the North Carolina State Bar, the Grievance Committee conducted a preliminary hearing. After considering the information available to it, including your response to the letter of notice, the Grievance Committee found probable cause. Probable cause is defined in the rules as "reasonable cause to believe that a member of the North Carolina State Bar is guilty of misconduct justifying disciplinary action."

The rules provide that after a finding of probable cause, the Grievance Committee may determine that the filing of a complaint and a hearing before the Disciplinary Hearing Commission are not required, and the Grievance Committee may issue various levels of discipline depending upon the misconduct, the actual or potential injury caused, and any aggravating or mitigating factors. The Grievance Committee may issue an admonition, a reprimand, or a censure to the respondent attorney.

A reprimand is a written form of discipline more serious than an admonition issued in cases in which an attorney has violated one or more provisions of the Rules of Professional Conduct and has caused harm or potential harm to a client, the administration of justice, the profession, or a member of the public, but the misconduct does not require a censure.

The Grievance Committee was of the opinion that a censure is not required in this case and issues this reprimand to you. As chairman of the Grievance Committee of the North Carolina State Bar, it is now my duty to issue this reprimand.

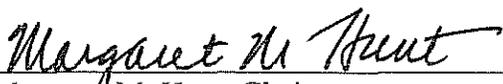
You represented Harrison Holdings in the case of Desinta Speller v. Harrison Holdings, Inc., d/b/a/ Ultimate Imports, et al., Durham Superior Court, case number 09 CVS 3112. In the course of this representation, you failed to comply with court obligations and failed to diligently represent your client in violation of Rules 1.3 and 3.4(c). The greater weight of the evidence shows you were notified of at least one hearing at which you failed to appear. If you still

represented Harrison Holdings at the time of this hearing, as is indicated by the greater weight of the evidence, then you had a duty to appear at this court hearing for Harrison Holdings. If, as you contend, your representation had ended, you had a duty to file a motion to withdraw when litigation in the case continued.

You are hereby reprimanded by the North Carolina State Bar for your professional misconduct. The Grievance Committee trusts that you will heed this reprimand, that it will be remembered by you, that it will be beneficial to you, and that you will never again allow yourself to depart from adherence to the high ethical standards of the legal profession.

In accordance with the policy adopted July 23, 2010 by the Council of the North Carolina State Bar regarding the taxing of administrative fees and investigative costs to any attorney issued a reprimand by the Grievance Committee, an administrative fee in the amount of \$350.00 is hereby taxed to you.

Done and ordered, this the 15<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2012.

  
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Margaret M. Hunt, Chair  
Grievance Committee

MMH/lr