

NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

BEFORE THE
GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE
OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR
10G1179

IN THE MATTER OF)

Anthony A. Pearl,)
Attorney At Law)

REPRIMAND)

On April 21, 2011, the Grievance Committee of the North Carolina State Bar met and considered the grievance filed against you by S.C.

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.

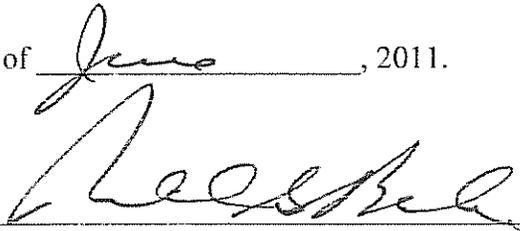
You are “Of Counsel” with the New York law firm, Steven F. Christiansen, PLLC. Mr. Christensen previously practiced law with David W. McAndrews under the name, McAndrews and Christiansen, LLP. You were listed as “Of Counsel” on McAndrews’ and Christensen’s letterhead. On February 8, 2010, the North Carolina State Bar Authorized Practice Committee served Mr. McAndrews with a letter of notice. The letter of notice alleged that Mr. McAndrews

was engaging in the unauthorized practice of law for sending a demand letter pursuant to the North Carolina shoplifting statute. On August 4, 2010, the Authorized Practice Committee issued a letter to cease and desist. Mr. McAndrews received the letter to cease and desist on or about August 11, 2010. You acknowledge that you were aware of the impropriety of Mr. McAndrews sending letters involving North Carolina matters. Notwithstanding that, on August 17, 2010, you sent a similar demand letter under Mr. Christensen's letterhead thereby allowing Mr. Christensen to hold himself out as able to practice law in NC without a NC license. Mr. Christensen's conduct is the unauthorized practice of law. You knowingly assisted Mr. Christensen with the unauthorized practice of law in violation of Rule 5.5(d).

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 2 day of June, 2011.



Ronald G. Baker, Sr., Chair
Grievance Committee

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