NORTH CAROLINA

WAKE COUNTY

BEFORE THE
GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE
OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR
13G0695

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| IN THE MATTER OF | ) | |
| | ) | |
| James N. Jorgensen | ) | REPRIMAND |
| Attorney At Law | ) | |
| | ) | |

On April 16, 2015 the Grievance Committee of the North Carolina State Bar met and considered the grievance filed against you by Kevin J. Hogan. The grievance was assigned to a Subcommittee, which thoroughly reviewed the results of the State Bar staff's investigation of this matter.

Pursuant to Section .0113(a) of the Discipline and Disability Rules of the North Carolina State Bar, the Grievance Subcommittee conducted a preliminary hearing. After considering the information available to it, including your response to the letter of notice, the Grievance Subcommittee 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 handled cases for Thomas George Associates ("TGA"), a collection agency that takes subrogation claims for Liberty Mutual Insurance. You failed to respond to TGA's numerous inquiries regarding the status of its cases and also failed to exercise diligence in your handling of one or more of TGA's cases. You acknowledged that you did not adequately communicate with TGA about its cases. You were also slow in disbursing money to TGA from

a judgment, and did so only after the grievance against you was initiated. By your failures to communicate with TGA about the status of its cases, you violated Rule 1.4 of the Rules of Professional Conduct. By failing to exercise diligence in your handling of one or more of TGA's cases, you violated Rule 1.3. Your failure to promptly disburse to TGA funds to which it was entitled violated Rule 1.15-2(m).

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 30th day of April, 2015.

John M. Silverstein, Chair
Grievance Committee

JMS/lb