

NORTH CAROLINA

WAKE COUNTY

BEFORE
THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE
OF
THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR
22G0351

IN THE MATTER OF

TIANA DANISE YOUNG MORRIS,
ATTORNEY AT LAW

REPRIMAND

Pursuant to the procedures set forth in 27 N.C. Admin. Code, Chapter 1B, the Grievance Committee of the North Carolina State Bar considered the grievance filed against you by J.W.

After thoroughly considering the information available to it, including your response to the letter of notice, the Grievance Committee found probable cause, defined as “reasonable cause to believe that a member of the North Carolina State Bar is guilty of misconduct justifying disciplinary action.”

Having found probable cause exists in your matter, the Grievance Committee next considered what level of discipline is most appropriate based on all the facts, the nature of the misconduct, the actual or potential injury caused, and any aggravating or mitigating factors. After further discussion and deliberations, the Grievance Committee determined the conduct before it merited discipline at the level of reprimand.

A reprimand is a written form of discipline issued where an attorney is determined to have 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 protection of the public does not require a censure.

As Chair of the Grievance Committee of the North Carolina State Bar, it is my duty to issue this reprimand, which is based on the following conduct:

J.W. hired you to represent him in a custody matter. During the course of the representation, you repeatedly failed to notify J.W. about hearing and trial dates, repeatedly failed to appear for the hearing and trial dates, and repeatedly failed to tell your client that you did not appear for hearings and trial dates. You failed to notify J.W. about important communications, motions, and orders entered, and repeatedly failed to respond to J.W.’s communications seeking updates and information about his matter. You failed to serve J.W.’s responses to interrogatories and, despite being ordered to respond to discovery, you failed to serve discovery responses by the stated deadline. As a result of your conduct, an unfavorable custody order was entered against J.W. in February 2022 and the court ordered J.W. to pay attorney’s fees.

Soon thereafter, J.W. hired new counsel who moved for a new trial. You were subpoenaed to appear for the hearing but failed to do so, which resulted in an Order to Show Cause entered against you. In a June 2022 order, the court concluded that your “ineffective assistance of counsel

and inexcusable neglect in not informing [J.W.] of his permanent custody trial date [was] an irregularity by which [J.W.] was prevented from having a fair trial[.]” The court also found inexcusable neglect in your failure to “inform [J.W.] of the failure to comply with the discovery requests, the Motion to Compel, the hearing date on the Motion to Compel and Motion for Attorney Fees, or the Order Granting [the opposing party’s] Motion to Compel.”

Furthermore, you did not to respond to the Letter of Notice in this matter, despite being served with it.

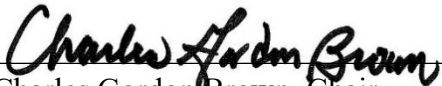
You abandoned your client and walked away from the practice of law. The Grievance Committee determined that you failed to act with reasonable diligence and promptness in violation of Rule 1.3; failed to keep your client reasonably informed about the status of the matter in violation of Rule 1.4(a)(3); failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information in violation of Rule 1.4(a)(4); and repeatedly failed to appear on behalf of your client, all of which were prejudicial to the administration of justice in violation of Rule 8.4(d). The Grievance Committee also determined that by failing to respond to the Letter of Notice despite being served with it, you knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from a disciplinary authority in violation of Rule 8.1(b).

Accordingly, you are hereby reprimanded by the North Carolina State Bar for your professional misconduct consisting of the cited violations of the Rules of Professional Conduct. 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.

If you accept this reprimand, it will be maintained as a record in the judgment book of the North Carolina State Bar and a copy will be sent to the complainant. Please review carefully the details set forth in the formal Notice of Reprimand attached.

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 20th day of August, 2025.


Charles Gordon Brown, Chair
Grievance Committee

CGB/jms