



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

WAKE COUNTY

BEFORE
THE DISCIPLINARY HEARING COMMISSION
OF
THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR
25 DHC 5N

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR,

Petitioner

v.

TIANA DANISE YOUNG MORRIS, Attorney,

Respondent

ORDER SUSPENDING
RESPONDENT'S LAW LICENSE FOR
NONCOMPLIANCE

THIS MATTER was considered by the Chair of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission pursuant to 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B.0135. Petitioner, the North Carolina State Bar, was represented by Elizabeth F. Starnes. Respondent, Tiana Danise Young Morris, was not represented, did not make an appearance in this matter, and did not file a response to the Order to Show Cause for Grievance Noncompliance served upon her. Based on the filings, the Chair of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission finds by clear, cogent, and convincing evidence the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Petitioner, the North Carolina State Bar, is a state agency duly organized under the laws of North Carolina and is the proper party to bring this proceeding under the authority granted it in Chapter 84 of the General Statutes of North Carolina and the Rules and Regulations of the North Carolina State Bar (Chapter 1 of Title 27 of the North Carolina Administrative Code).

2. Respondent, Tiana Young Morris, was licensed to practice law in North Carolina in 2016 and, except for the period noted below, is and was at all times referred to herein, an attorney at law licensed to practice in North Carolina, subject to the laws of the State of North Carolina, the Rules and Regulations of the North Carolina State Bar and the Rules of Professional Conduct.

3. On 1 May 2023, Respondent's license to practice law was administratively suspended for noncompliance with her membership obligations.

4. On 6 June 2024, Respondent agreed via email to accept electronic service of the Letters of Notice in grievance file nos. 21G0152 and 22G0351.

5. On 6 June 2024, Petitioner emailed Respondent the Letters of Notice in grievance file nos. 21G0152 and 22G0351.

6. Respondent's responses to the Letters of Notice in grievance file nos. 21G0152 and 22G0351 were due within 15 days of Respondent's receipt of the Letters of Notice.

7. Respondent did not respond to the Letters of Notice in grievance file nos. 21G0152 and 22G0351 within 15 days of Respondent's receipt.

8. On 8 April 2025, Petitioner discovered an employment address for Respondent: 3939 Washington Avenue, Suite 220, Houston, Texas 77007 ("Texas employment address").

9. On 8 April 2025, Deputy Rice of the Constable's Office in Harris County, Texas, personally served Respondent with the Letters of Notice in grievance file nos. 21G0152 and 22G0351 at Respondent's Texas employment address.

10. Respondent's responses to the Letters of Notice in grievance file nos. 21G0152 and 22G0351 were due within 15 days from the date Respondent was served with the Letters of Notice.

11. Respondent did not respond to the Letters of Notice in grievance file nos. 21G0152 and 22G0351 within 15 days from the date Respondent was served and did not request an extension of time to respond.

12. On 24 April 2025, Petitioner mailed a past due letter to Respondent's Texas employment address. Respondent was instructed to respond to the Letters of Notice in grievance file nos. 21G0152 and 22G0351 no later than 9 May 2025.

13. Respondent did not respond to Petitioner's 24 April 2025 letter or provide responses to the Letters of Notice by 9 May 2025.

14. On 14 May 2025, Petitioner sent a past due letter to Respondent's Texas address and Texas employment address. Respondent was instructed to respond to the Letters of Notice in grievance file nos. 21G0152 and 22G0351 no later than 28 May 2025.

15. Respondent did not respond to Petitioner's 14 May 2025 letter or provide responses to the Letters of Notice by 28 May 2025.

16. On 12 June 2025, after Respondent failed to respond to the Letters of Notice in grievance file nos. 21G0152 and 22G0351, the State Bar filed a petition with the DHC setting forth the efforts made by the State Bar seeking Respondent's compliance and seeking entry of an order directing Respondent to show cause why her law license should not be suspended for failure to comply with the grievance process.

17. The Petition was supported by the Affidavit of State Bar Investigator Robert Powell, pursuant to 27 N.C. Admin Code 1B.0135(c)(1).

18. On 18 June 2025, the DHC entered an Order directing Respondent to show cause within 14 days of the date of service of the Order upon Respondent why her law license should not be suspended for noncompliance.

19. Respondent was properly served with the Order, pursuant to 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B.0135(d)(4), on 18 June 2025.

20. The Order warned Respondent that her noncompliance or failure to respond to the Order may result in the suspension of her law license.

21. Respondent did not respond to the 18 June 2025 Order.

22. Respondent has not shown she is in compliance, has not cured her noncompliance with the State Bar, and has not shown that there is good cause for her noncompliance.

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Chair makes the following:

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. All parties are properly before the Chair of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission, and the Disciplinary Hearing Commission has jurisdiction over Respondent, Tiana Danise Young Morris, and over the subject matter of this proceeding.

2. Pursuant to 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B.0135(e)(3), if the respondent does not file a response to the order to show cause within 14 days of the date of the service of the order to show cause upon the respondent, the Chair of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission may enter an order suspending the respondent's law license.

3. The State Bar met its burden of proof by establishing by clear, cogent and convincing evidence that Respondent is noncompliant in grievance file nos. 21G0152 and 22G0351.

4. Respondent failed to meet her burden of proof to establish that she was and is in compliance, that she fully cured all noncompliance, or that there is good cause for her noncompliance. None of these three circumstances have been established in this case.

5. Respondent is noncompliant in grievance file nos. 21G0152 and 22G0351 as defined in 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B.0135(a).

6. Respondent's noncompliance is grounds for the suspension of her law license pursuant to 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B.0135(e)(3) and (g).

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact, and Conclusions of Law, the Chair of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission enters the following:

ORDER


1. Respondent, Tiana Danise Young Morris, is hereby suspended from the practice law.

2. This order shall be effective 30 days after it is served upon Respondent by mailing a copy of the order by first-class mail to the following address: 3939 Washington Avenue, Suite 220, Houston, Texas 77007.

3. Respondent shall comply with all the wind-down provisions of 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B.0128, as provided in 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B.0135(h).

4. Any petition by Respondent to be reinstated to the practice of law shall be governed by 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B.0135(i).

This the 10th day of July, 2025.



Jaye Meyer, Chair
Disciplinary Hearing Commission