

When the State Bar initially contacted you to ask about your relationship with NDN, you stated that you had only worked on about 20 deeds for NDN and would stop immediately. This statement was misleading given the actual scale of your work for these companies.

The deed for the sale of L.P.'s real property included more land than had been indicated in the sales contract. You failed to notice or correct this error in your review of the deed prepared by NDN. When L.P. attempted to contact you to correct the error, you refused to return his calls or to remedy the mistake. You denied having any responsibility to L.P., claiming only that he was not your client.

In determining that a censure was appropriate, the Committee took into consideration the harm that necessarily results when attorneys aid out-of-state entities in the unauthorized practice of law and the scale of your involvement with these companies.

You are hereby censured by the North Carolina State Bar for your violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct. The Grievance Committee trusts that you will ponder this censure, recognize the error that you have made, and that you will never again allow yourself to depart from adherence to the high ethical standards of the legal profession. This censure should serve as a strong reminder and inducement for you to weigh carefully in the future your responsibility to the public, your clients, your fellow attorneys and the courts, to the end that you demean yourself as a respected member of the legal profession whose conduct may be relied upon without question.

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 censure by the Grievance Committee, an administrative fee in the amount of \$350.00 is hereby taxed to you.

Done and ordered, this 7th day of August, 2019.

A. Todd Brown Sr.

A. Todd Brown, Sr., Chair
Grievance Committee
The North Carolina State Bar

ATB/lb