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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF WAKE

BEFORE THE
GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE
OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR
93G0176 (II)

IN THE MATTER OF)

WILLIAM T. PEREGOY,)
ATTORNEY AT LAW)

REPRIMAND)

On July 8, 1993, the Grievance Committee of the North Carolina State Bar met and considered the grievance filed against you by Larry A. Dew.

Pursuant to section 13(A) of article IX of the Rules and Regulations 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, reprimand, or 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 and I am certain that you will understand fully the spirit in which this duty is performed.

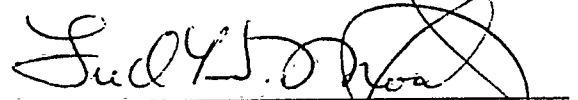
In the spring of 1991 you undertook to represent Larry A. Dew regarding his claim against the estate of Joseph R. McBroom and others. Thereafter, the defendants served you with interrogatories and a request to produce documents. Although you ultimately made the documents available to the defendants, you failed to respond to the interrogatories, despite the fact that your client had provided you with the necessary information to do so. Further, you did not respond to a motion to compel which was served upon you. Nor did you appear on Dew's behalf at a hearing in March 1992 on the defendant's motion to dismiss Dew's lawsuit.

As a result of your neglect of his case, the court ultimately dismissed Dew's suit. You took no action to set aside the dismissal, even after Dew filed a grievance against you. Your conduct in this matter constituted neglect of a legal matter in violation of Rule 6(B)(3) of the Rules of Professional Conduct which resulted in prejudice to your client, in violation of Rule 7.1(A)(3) of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

You are hereby reprimanded by the North Carolina State Bar due to 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 October 15, 1981 by the Council of the North Carolina State Bar regarding the taxing of the administrative and investigative costs to any attorney issued a reprimand by the Grievance Committee, the costs of this action in the amount of \$50.00 are hereby taxed to you.

Done and ordered, this 10th day of August, 1993.


Fred H. Moody, Jr., Chairman
The Grievance Committee
North Carolina State Bar

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