

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

NOV 05 2025

BEFORE THE

DISCIPLINARY HEARING COMMISSION

OF THE

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR

25 DHC 13N

WAKE COUNTY

FILED DHC

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR,

Petitioner

v.

MARY LEAZER ROGERS Attorney,

Respondent

ORDER
OF
NONCOMPLIANCE SUSPENSION

THIS MATTER was considered by the Chair of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission pursuant to 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B § 1B.0135. Petitioner, the North Carolina State Bar, was represented by Kelley DeAngelus. Respondent, Mary Leazer Rogers, did not file a response. Based on the filings, the Chair of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission finds by clear, cogent, and convincing evidence the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The 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, Mary Leazer Rogers, was licensed to practice law in North Carolina in 1995 and 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 April 30, 2025, E.C. filed grievance 25G0425 regarding Respondent's conduct.
4. On May 15, 2025, M.B. filed grievance 25G0494 regarding Respondent's conduct.
5. On August 11, 2025, the State Bar filed grievance 25G0815 regarding Respondent's conduct.
6. On August 11, 2025, the State Bar filed grievance 25G0816 regarding Respondent's conduct.

7. On September 5, 2025, Respondent accepted service of grievance files 25G0425, 25G0494, 25G0815, and 25G0816 via her attorney, W. Terry Sherrill.
8. Pursuant to 27 N.C. Admin. Code Chapter 1B Section .0112(c), Respondent was required to respond to the allegations in the Letters of Notice within 15 days of service. Thus, Respondent's reply to files 25G0425, 25G0494, 25G0815, and 25G0816 was due on September 22, 2025.
9. Respondent's attorney requested, and was granted, an extension of time for Respondent to reply to all four grievances by October 10, 2025.
10. Respondent failed to file her responses or otherwise communicate with the State Bar regarding her responses, on or before October 10, 2025.
11. On October 14, 2025, having still not received Respondent's responses or other communication from her or her attorney, the State Bar emailed Respondent's attorney notifying him that her responses were late and extending her time to respond to October 17, 2025. Specifically, that email stated:

On September 5, 2025, you accepted service on behalf of your client, Mary Leazer Rogers, of the Letter of Notice regarding grievance files 25G0816, 25G0815, 25G0494, and 25G0425. Ms. Rogers' initial deadline to provide her response to those grievance files was due to the State Bar no later than September 22, 2025. Per your request, I extended that deadline to respond to October 10, 2025.

As of today, October 14, 2025, the State Bar has not received Ms. Rogers' responses. Please instruct Ms. Rogers to provide her complete responses immediately and no later than Friday October 17, 2025. Should she fail to comply with this deadline, the State Bar will seek an order suspending her license to practice law for failure to fully and timely comply with her obligations to provide information sought in the grievance process.

12. On October 21, 2025, the State Bar filed a petition with the Disciplinary Hearing Commission (hereinafter "DHC") setting forth the efforts made by the State Bar to obtain Respondent's compliance with the State Bar's grievance investigation as its basis to seek the 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.
13. The Petition was supported by the Affidavit of State Bar Paralegal Laura Wyrick.
14. On October 21, 2025, the DHC entered an Order directing Respondent to show cause within 14 days of service of the Order upon Respondent why her law license should not be suspended for failure to comply with the grievance process.

15. Service upon Respondent was satisfied upon a mailing sent to Respondent, via her attorney, W. Terry Sherrill, on October 21, 2025, pursuant to 27 N.C. Admin. Code § 1B.0135(d)(4).
16. Thus, Respondent's reply to the Order to Show Cause was due on November 4, 2025.
17. The Order warned Respondent that failure to comply with the grievance process or respond to the Order may result in the suspension of her law license.
18. Respondent failed to respond to the October 21, 2025, Order.
19. The State Bar met its burden of proof by establishing that Respondent was noncompliant with the investigation of grievance files 25G0816, 25G0815, 25G0494, and 25G0425. Respondent failed to meet her burden of establishing that the noncompliance was justified and did not offer evidence of other possible defenses as described in 27 N.C. Admin. Code § 1B.0135(f)(2).

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, Mary Leazer Rogers, and over the subject matter of this proceeding.
2. Respondent is noncompliant with the investigation of grievance files 25G0816, 25G0815, 25G0494, and 25G0425 as defined in 27 N.C. Admin. Code § 1B.0135(a).
3. Respondent has not shown that there is good cause for her noncompliance.
4. 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:

1. Respondent, Mary Leazer Rogers, is hereby suspended from the practice of law, effective 30 days after this Order is served upon her.
2. Respondent shall comply with all the wind-down provisions of 27 N.C. Admin Code Chapter 1B § .0128, as provided in 27 N.C. Admin. Code Chapter 1B § .0135(h).

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

This the 5th day of November 2025.



Jaye Meyer, Chair
Disciplinary Hearing Commission