

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
LAWYER DISCIPLINARY BOARD
2017**

Pursuant to Rule 1.11 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure, the Lawyer Disciplinary Board submits this Annual Report on the operation of the lawyer disciplinary system.

Introduction

The Lawyer Disciplinary Board is the governing body for the Office of Disciplinary Counsel. The Board consists of twenty-two (22) members, fifteen (15) are lawyers and seven (7) are lay persons, and are all volunteers appointed to serve by the West Virginia State Bar Board of Governors. The Lawyer Disciplinary Board meets to consider and issue formal ethics opinions, render informal advisory opinions, establish policies, and address other issues it deems appropriate which relate to lawyer discipline.

The Board is divided into an Investigative Panel comprised of five (5) lawyers and two (2) laymembers; and a Hearing Panel comprised of ten (10) lawyers and five (5) laymembers. The Investigative Panel reviews complaints and determines whether probable cause exists to formally charge a lawyer with a violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct. When formal charges are issued, the Chair of the Hearing Panel appoints a three (3) member subcommittee two (2) lawyers and one (1) layperson) from the Hearing Panel to conduct evidentiary hearings and make a recommended disposition to the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia. The Hearing Panel Subcommittee also conducts hearings for reciprocal disciplinary proceedings, mitigation hearings, and reinstatement petitions.

The Board hold elections for the positions of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, which run from July 1 of the current year to June 30 of the next year. Steven K. Nord, Esquire, was elected as Chairperson of the Board for 2017-18, and also serves as Chairperson of the Hearing Panel. Robby

J. Aliff was elected Vice-Chairperson of the Board, and serves as Chairperson of the Investigative Panel. New members are appointed on July 1 to a three (3) year term, and each member may serve two terms. There were five (5) new members appointed on July 1, 2017. The new members are Jasmine R.H.Morton, Esquire; Elizabeth Layne Diehl, Esquire; Charlotte Norris; Gail T. Henderson Staples, Esquire, and Rachel Scudiere Vitt. The Office of Disciplinary Counsel serves as the prosecuting authority for violations of the Rules of Professional Conduct. Disciplinary Counsel provide informal ethics advice to all members of the West Virginia State Bar. Such informal advice may be obtained, without charge to the requesting party, by calling the Office of Disciplinary Counsel during business hours at (304) 558-7999, or by submitting a written request addressed to the Office of Disciplinary Counsel, City Center East, Suite 1200 C., 4700 MacCorkle Avenue, S.E., Charleston, West Virginia 25304.

Lawyer Disciplinary Board Activity

The full Board met three (3) times from January 1, 2017, through December 31, 2017. The Board considered three (3) requests for formal ethics opinions pursuant to Rule 2.16 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure. There was one (1) formal Legal Ethics Opinion issued, L.E.O. 2017-01; Occurrence Witness Fees.

The Investigative Panel met four (4) times from January 1, 2017, through December 31, 2017. It closed 102 complaints, issued 28 Admonishments and issued 10 Statements of Charges which encompassed 36 complaints.

In 2017 Hearing Panel Subcommittees presided over 14 on formal charges, and three (3) hearings regarding requests of an attorney to have his license to practice law reinstated.

Statistics

During the 2017 calendar year, the Office of Disciplinary Counsel received 634 formal complaints against lawyers. During this same time period, Disciplinary Counsel addressed and closed 606 formal complaints. Of those closed complaints: 239 were closed by ODC without an investigation; 210 were closed by the Chief Lawyer after an investigation by ODC; the Investigative Panel closed 102 complaints; and the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia issued decisions on 55 complaints.

The Supreme Court decisions are as follows: [1] Statement of Charges: nine (9) suspensions, one (1) admonishment, one (1) reprimand, and two (2) dismissals of charges after the Respondent consented to disbarment; [2] two (2) annulments pursuant to 3.18 petitions; two (2) suspensions pursuant to 3.20 proceedings, three (3) annulments pursuant to 3.25 petitions; and one (1) suspension pursuant to a 3.27 petition; [3] Reinstatement Petitions: one (1) was denied; [4] Resignation Petitions: four (4) were granted, and one (1) was dismissed at Petitioner's request; [5] one [1] *Writ* of Prohibition and Mandamus was denied.

Pending before the Supreme Court at the end of 2017 were four (4) Statements of Charges that have been set for oral argument or awaiting a decision, encompassing 32 complaints, (1) consent to disbarment, which will dismiss one (1) Statement of Charges; one (1) resignation petition; one (1) 3.27 petition; and one (1) 3.18 petition.

Of the types of cases giving rise to the filing of ethics complaints in 2017, complaints about miscellaneous matters generated the highest number of ethics complaints filed, which represented 30% of the total number of complaints filed, followed by criminal matters, which represented 25%.

Disciplinary Counsel received and addressed 657 requests for informal advice from attorneys

across the State. ODC staff also 30 matters on an informal basis.

Special Counsel Cases

Pursuant to the Rules of Judicial Disciplinary Procedure, the Chief Lawyer Disciplinary Counsel also serves as special judicial counsel when counsel for the Judicial Investigation Commission has a conflict of interest. Chief Lawyer Disciplinary Counsel addressed two (2) judicial complaints, one of which resulted in an admonishment of the judicial officer.

Personnel

The Chief Lawyer Disciplinary Counsel and Lawyer Disciplinary Counsel made 24 Continuing Legal Education presentations for various entities, including presentations made at ten (10) regional meetings held by the West Virginia State Bar. Also, a new Legal Assistant, Alektra Watts, was hired.

Budget and Operations

The Lawyer Disciplinary Board/Office of Disciplinary Counsel's budget was set at \$1,101,376.50 for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Of this amount, ODC expended a total of \$1,059,890.00. The Office of Disciplinary Counsel collected \$6,052.25 in costs from attorneys who were ordered to pay costs arising from the prosecution of disciplinary proceedings.

List of Disciplinary Cases Decided by the Court

The following is a list of the hearing cases decided by the Supreme Court, with a short summary of each case.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel vs. Richard E. Hardison, Jr., No. 16-0891 (WV 1/4/2017): The Supreme Court annulled the license to practice law of Respondent pursuant to a 3.18 Petition filed by the Office of Disciplinary Counsel.

Lawyer Disciplinary Board vs. Athanasios Basdekis, No. 16-0134 (WV 1/25/17): The Supreme Court ordered that Respondent's license to practice law shall be suspended for a period of four months, execution of which is hereby suspended in favor of an 18-month period of supervised probation subject to the conditions set forth in the report and recommendation of the HPS.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel vs. David L. White, No. 17-0055 (WV 3/8/17): The Supreme Court ordered that Respondent's license to practice law be suspended after the Lawyer Disciplinary Counsel filed a petition for immediate suspension, pursuant to Rule 3.27 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure.

State of West Virginia ex rel. James F. Humphreys vs. WV Lawyer Disciplinary Board and WV Office of Disciplinary Counsel, No. 17-0147 (WV 4/25/17): The Supreme Court issued an Order which stated that a Rule should not be awarded and the Petition for *Writ* of Prohibition and Mandamus was refused.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel v Danny W. Barie, No. 17-0285 (WV 4/25/17) Pursuant to Rule 3.25 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure, Lawyer Disciplinary Counsel petitioned the Court to accept the voluntary annulment of the license to practice law of Respondent. Upon consideration, the Court granted the petition.

Office of Disciplinary Board vs. Danny W. Barie, No. 16-0981 (WV 4/25/17) The Supreme Court dismissed this matter due to the ruling in 17-0285.

Lawyer Disciplinary Board vs. James J. Palmer, III, No. 15-0977 (WV 5/5/17): The Supreme Court found that Respondent violated the following Rules of Professional Conduct: Rule 1.3 - lack of diligence; Rule 1.4(a) - failure to keep his client informed about the status of the matter; Rule 3.2 - failure to expedite litigation; and Rule 8.4(d) - engaged in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice. The Court ordered that Respondent be: (1) suspended from the practice of law for thirty days, with automatic reinstatement pursuant to the provisions of Rule 3.31 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure; (2) that he complete six additional hours of CLE; (3) that upon his reinstatement he shall be placed on six months of probation with his practice supervised by an active attorney in his geographic area; (4) that he shall promptly comply with the provision of Rule 3.28 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure; and (5) prior to being reinstated he shall pay the cost of the disciplinary proceeding, pursuant to Rule 3.15 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure.

Lawyer Disciplinary Board vs. Lauren Thompson, No. 16-0003 (WV 5/10/17): The Supreme Court found that Respondent violated Rules 1.1; 1.2; 1.3; 1.7; 3.4(c); and 8.4(d) of the Rules of Professional Conduct. The Court ordered that Respondent be: (1) suspended from the practice of law for a period of three months and to abide by the duties imposed pursuant to 3.28; (2) that Respondent complete an additional twelve hours of Continuing Legal Education; (3) that Respondent pay the costs and expenses incurred by the ODC in the prosecution of this proceeding prior to her reinstatement to the practice of law; and (4) that reinstatement shall be automatic pursuant to Rule 3.31 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel vs. Jeff A. Godfrey, No. 16-0427 (WV 5/16/17) The Supreme Court annulled the license to practice law of Respondent pursuant to a 3.18 Petition filed by the Office of Disciplinary Counsel.

Lawyer Disciplinary Board vs. Barbara Harmon-Schamberger, No. 16-0662 (WV 5/16/17) Pursuant to the Hearing Panel Subcommittee's recommendation, the Supreme Court ordered that Respondent's law license be suspended for a period of three months. Upon automatic reinstatement, Respondent's law practice shall be supervised for a period of two years; Respondent must refund the one thousand dollar retainer fee to Donnie Sears; Respondent must complete and additional six hours of continuing legal education; and shall pay the cost of the disciplinary proceeding.

Lawyer Disciplinary Board vs. Michael P. Cooke, No. 15-1243 (WV 5/22/17): The Supreme Court found that Respondent violated the following Rules of Professional Conduct: Rule 1.3 - lack of diligence; 1.4(a)(1) - inform the client of any circumstance that requires informed consent; Rule 1.4(a)(3) - keep the client informed about the status of a matter; Rule 1.4(b) - explain the matter to the client to permit the client to make informed decisions; Rule 1.15(a) - keep the client's property separate from the lawyer's property; Rule 1.15(d) - promptly notify client or third party of receipt of funds or property in which that person has an interest; Rule 1.15(f) - establish and maintain an IOLTA account to hold client funds that are nominal in amount; Rule 3.4(c) - disobeying an obligation under the rules of a tribunal; Rule 8.1(b) - failure to respond to disciplinary authority; Rule 8.4(c)- conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation; and Rule 8.4(d) - conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice.. The Court ordered that Respondent be: (1) suspended from the practice of law for two years; (2) was directed to abide by the duties imposed pursuant to Rule 3.28 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure; (3) upon being reinstated he must undergo one year of supervised practice; (4) prior to being reinstated he must complete an additional nine hours of CLE; (5) prior to being reinstated he must reimburse the costs of the disciplinary proceeding pursuant to Rule 3.15 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel vs. Thorn H. Thorn, No. 17-0469 (WV 6/6/17) Pursuant to Rule 3.25 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure, Lawyer Disciplinary Counsel petitioned the Court to accept the voluntary annulment of the license to practice law of Respondent. Upon consideration, the Court granted the petition.

Lawyer Disciplinary Board vs. Thorn H. Thorn, No. 16-1225 (WV 6/6/17) The Supreme Court dismissed this matter due to the ruling in 17-0469.

Lawyer Disciplinary Board vs. Mark S. Plants, No. 15-0957 (WV 7/3/17) The Supreme Court ordered that Respondent be reprimanded; and to reimburse ODC for the costs of this action in the amount of \$9,662.80.

Lawyer Disciplinary Board vs. Kevin C. Duffy, Nos. 16-0181 & 16-0614 (WV 7/17/17): For Respondent's violations of Rules 1.1, 1.2(a), 1.3, 1.4 (a), 1.4(b), 3.2, 8.1(b), 8.4(b) and 8.4(d), the Supreme Court ordered that Respondent's law license be suspended for 12 months, to be served

retroactively from his June 2, 2016 suspension. Respondent will be required to petition for reinstatement and was ordered to pay the costs of the disciplinary proceeding.

Lawyer Disciplinary Board vs. D. Adrian Hoosier, II, No. 16-1028 (WV 8/30/17) The Supreme Court ordered that Respondent's law license be suspended for a period of 3 months, with automatic reinstatement, that Respondent shall complete an additional six hours of CLE in the area of ethics and law office management during the current mandatory CLE reporting period, that Respondent shall fully comply with the duties of a suspended lawyer in accord with Rule 3.28 of the RLDP, and that Respondent shall pay the costs of this proceeding pursuant to Rule 3.15 of the RLDP.

Petition for Voluntary Resignation from the West Virginia State Bar of Arthur A. Abplanalp, Jr., No. 16-0574 (WV 8/30/17): The Supreme Court granted Petitioner's petition to resign from the West Virginia State Bar.

Reinstatement Petition of David D. Perry, No. 15-1229 (WV 8/30/17): The Supreme Court denied Petitioner's petition for reinstatement of his law license.

Lawyer Disciplinary Board vs. Kelly Hamon McLaughlin, No. 16-0957 (WV 8/30/17): The Supreme Court accepted the recommendation of the Hearing Panel Subcommittee and ordered that: (1) after resigning her position as Prosecuting Attorney for Braxton County on March 15, 2017, Respondent shall not at any time in the future, by appointment or election, seek to hold the position of a prosecuting attorney; (2) her law license is suspended for three years and she shall comply with the duties of a suspended attorney; and (3) she shall pay the costs of the disciplinary proceeding.

Lawyer Disciplinary Board vs. Mark A. Thomas, No. 17-0131 (WV 8/30/17): A petition was filed to accept Respondent's consent to disbarment pursuant to the provisions of Rule 3.25 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure. The Supreme Court accepted the consent and annulled Respondent's law license. In light of the annulment, pending the Statement of Charges was dismissed.

Petition for Voluntary Resignation from the West Virginia State Bar of Susan Waldi, No. 17-0822 (WV 9/26/17): The Supreme Court granted Petitioner's motion to withdraw her Petition for Resignation the West Virginia State Bar.

Petition for Voluntary Resignation from the West Virginia State Bar of Zachary Cameron, No. 17-0656 (WV 10/18/17): The Supreme Court granted Petitioner's petition to resign from the West Virginia State Bar.

Petition for Voluntary Resignation from the West Virginia State Bar of Priscilla Fenton Hament, No. 17-0626 (WV 10/18/17): The Supreme Court granted Petitioner's petition to resign from the West Virginia State Bar.

Petition for Voluntary Resignation from the West Virginia State Bar of David Obermeier, No. 17-0774 (WV10/18/17): The Supreme Court granted Petitioner's petition to resign from the West Virginia State Bar.

Lawyer Disciplinary Board v. David A. Downes, No. 15-0702 (10/24/17): The Supreme Court suspended Respondent's license to practice law for a period of thirty days. Upon completion of his suspension, he was ordered to undergo a period of probation and to submit to a random periodic reviews of his trust account records, as well as pay costs of the proceedings. This matter was as a result of a reciprocal disciplinary action pursuant to Rule 3.20 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure, and Respondent was found to have violated 1.15 of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

Lawyer Disciplinary Board v. Alfred Joseph Munoz, No. 16-0645 (WV 12/12/17): The Supreme Court suspended Respondent for three (3) months; ordered that Respondent shall complete an additional 6 hours of CLE in addition to the hours already required; shall comply with Rule 3.28 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure. These sanctions were issued based upon findings that Respondent violated the following Rules of Professional Conduct: Rule 1.3-lack of diligence; Rule 1.4(a)(2)-failed to consult with the client regarding the means by which the client's objectives are to be accomplished; Rule 1.4(a)(3)-failed to keep the clients informed about the status of their case; Rule 1.4(a)(4)-failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information; Rule 3.2-failure to expedite litigation; Rule 3.3-candor toward the tribunal; Rule 8.1(a)-knowingly made a false statement of material fact; Rule 8.1(b)-failed to respond to disciplinary authority; Rule 8.4(c)-engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation; and Rule 8.4(d)-engaged in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice.

Lawyer Disciplinary Board v. Sarah Campbell, No. 16-1036 (12/19/17): The Supreme Court admonished Respondent for her violation of Rules 4.1 and 8.4 (c) of the Rules of Professional Conduct. Respondent was further ordered to pay costs of the proceeding.

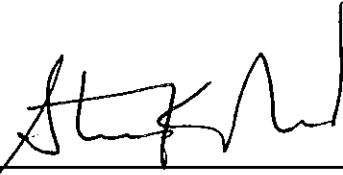
**Annual Report as Required by the
Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure**

The following statistical reports for 2017 are attached hereto: (1) Office of Disciplinary Counsel Statistics for Lawyer Discipline and Complaints; (2) Lawyer Disciplinary Board and Office of Disciplinary Counsel Annual Caseload Statistics; and (3) WV Office of Disciplinary Counsel Statistics for: 12/31/2017.

Approved on this 26th day of January, 2018.

**LAWYER DISCIPLINARY BOARD
OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL**

Respectfully Submitted By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steven K. Nord', written over a horizontal line.

Steven K. Nord, Chairperson
Lawyer Disciplinary Board

WV Office of Disciplinary Counsel Statistics For :

12/31/2017 *

Total Number of Currently Active Complaints:	389
Complaints Currently Under Investigation:	322
Complaints Currently Awaiting Statement of Charges:	0
Complaints Pending a Hearing:	26
Complaints Awaiting Recommended Decision:	5
Complaints Before Supreme Court:	36
Complaints Filed This Year:	634
Total Complaints Closed This Year:	606
ODC Closings:	239
CLDC Closings:	210
IP Closings:	102
SupCrt Closings:	55
Formal Charges Filed This Year:	36
Complaints Pending Less Than 6 Months:	193
Complaints Pending More Than 6 Months And Less Than 12 Month	88
Complaints Pending More Than 12 Months And Less Than 18 Month	43
Complaints Pending More Than 18 Months And Less Than 24 Month	23
Complaints Pending More Than 24 Months:	42
Percentage of Complaints Pending More Than 18 Months:	16.71%
Informal Ethics Advice:	657

These figures exclude cases on administrative stay, as permitted by the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure. Statistics are kept on a calendar year basis.

**OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL STATISTICS
FOR LAWYER DISCIPLINE AND COMPLAINTS: 2017**

Number of **complaints** which resulted in **discipline** by Supreme Court of Appeals in 2017¹: [14 lawyers] 29 complaints

Lawyers disciplined by Supreme Court:

9	Solo practitioner
3	Two lawyers in office
0	Three lawyers in office
1	Four or more lawyers in office
1	active military, not practicing law

Length of practice of lawyers disciplined by Supreme Court:

1	Less than 5 years
2	Between 5 and 10 years
4	Between 10 and 15 years
3	Between 15 and 20 years
4	20 years or more

1

In 2017, the Court dismissed two (2) Statement of Charges encompassing 15 complaints [five (5) and ten (10) complaints] against two (2) lawyers after the lawyers consented to disbarment pursuant to Rule 3.25 petitions during the pendency of the charges. The Court also granted a Rule 3.25 petition which was tendered to the HPS at the disciplinary hearing which involved 1 (one) complaint. There are no specific findings of rule violations in Rule 3.25 Orders.

The Court granted one (1) Rule 3.27 extraordinary petition of which also required the appointment of a trustee pursuant to Rule 3.29 to protect the interests of the lawyer's clients.

The Court denied one (1) Rule 3.32 petition filed by a lawyer seeking reinstatement to the practice of law from a suspension.

The Court granted four (4) Rule 3.26 petitions and dismissed (1) one Rule 3.26 petition filed by lawyers seeking voluntary resignation from the WWSB.

The Court also issued one (1) decision which denied a petition for *writ* of prohibition and mandamus against the ODC and the LDB.

Types of ethical violations committed in cases where lawyers were disciplined by the Supreme Court (note: lawyers usually disciplined for more than one violation)

16%	Prejudice to administration of justice
15%	Lack of communication
12%	Lying or not responding to ODC
11%	Dishonesty/lack of truthfulness
9%	Competence
7%	Diligence
5%	Lawyers committing crimes
5%	Trust Account violations
5%	Delaying litigation
4%	Fairness to opposing party
3%	Lack of candor
2%	Failure to supervise nonlawyers
2%	Failure to abide by client's objectives
1%	Advertising
1%	Conflicts of interest
1%	Fees
1%	Withdrawal problems (files, refunds, etc)

Number of complaints where lawyers were issued Investigative Panel Admonishments in 2017:

28

Type of conduct giving rise to these cases where lawyers were disciplined Investigative Panel Admonishments [lawyer may have been admonished for more than one rule violation]

- 33% Failure to Communicate
- 19% Lack of diligence
- 7% Fees
- 7% Delaying litigation
- 6% Trust Account violations
- 6% Lying or not responding to ODC
- 4% Lawyer committing a crime
- 4% Lack of candor before the tribunal
- 4% Advertising/Solicitation
- 2% Withdrawal problems (files, refunds, etc)
- 2% Confidentiality
- 2% Duties to prospective clients
- 2% Prejudice to the administration of justice
- 2% Failure to supervise nonlawyers

Breakdown of disciplinary complaints
FILED in 2017 (complaints usually
have more than one violation alleged;
includes merit-less complaints):

287	Failure to communicate
242	No violation alleged
190	Dishonesty / lack of truthfulness
178	Prejudice to the administration of justice
130	Lack of diligence
121	Competence
101	Lack of candor before the tribunal
87	Failure to abide by client's objectives
49	Withdrawal problems (files; refunds)
44	Conflicts of interest
41	Delaying litigation
31	Fees
22	Trust account violations
21	Lawyer Committing a Crime
18	Fairness to opposing party/counsel
17	Failure to respect rights of 3 rd persons
12	Confidentiality
9	Assisting others to violate ethics rules
5	Advertising/Solicitation
5	Unlawful practice
4	Ex parte/improper contact w/ judge/juror
4	Failure to supervise non-lawyers
4	Communicating w/ represented party
2	Independence of lawyers
2	Lying or not responding to ODC
1	Failure to report unethical conduct
1	Prosecutorial misconduct
1	Frivolous litigation
1	Misleading unrepresented party

Types of cases giving rise to the filing of disciplinary complaints:

30%	Miscellaneous
25%	Criminal
12%	Domestic
8%	Habeas
5%	Prosecutor
4%	Estate
4%	Personal Injury
3%	Real Estate
2%	Conviction
2%	Abuse & Neglect
1%	Compensation
<1%	Office Procedures [0.63]
<1%	Contract [0.63]
<1%	Business [0.63]
<1%	Employment [0.47]
<1%	Reciprocal [0.47]
<1%	Bankruptcy [0.32]
<1%	Reinstatement [0.32]
<1%	Impairment [0.16]

**LAWYER DISCIPLINARY BOARD AND
OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL
ANNUAL CASELOAD STATISTICS
2007-2017**

Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
New complaints	577	618	555	517	596	665	602	720	551	596	634
Total # Complaints Closed	618	572	545	520	576	665	629	701	665	577	606
Complaints Closed by Investigative Panel	69	55	62	73	67	94	104	118	134	115	102
Complaints Closed by Chief Disciplinary	308	252	258	239	240	276	273	262	232	182	210
Complaints Not Docketed/ODC Dismissed	204	221	186	187	213	237	201	279	221	232	239
Supreme Court Cases Decided [# of complaints]	26 [37]	26 [36]	17 [39] *	17 [21]	36 [55]	32 [56]	36 [51]	31 [42]	31 [77]	29 [48]	27 [55]
Hearing Panel Findings Issued [# of complaints]	15 [31]	13 [25]	5 [6] *	11 [24] **	18 [27]	10 [24]	19 [35]	19 [28]	16 [41]	19 [29]	11 [46] ***
Formal Ethics Opinions	1	0	2	1	0	1	2	1	3	1	1
Informal Ethics Advice	870	701	728	606	710	702	665	659	661	591	657
Informal Complaints	121	96	82	78	67	77	57	53	52	49	30
Costs Collected	\$5,244.83	\$13,943.08	\$6,173.09	\$6,436.39	\$19,404.17	\$8,653.24	\$17,097.07	\$22,237.56	\$18,563.39	\$12,418.33	6,052.25

* There were 4 cases which encompassed 26 complaints before the Hearing Panels at various stages of the hearing process that ultimately lead to those 4 lawyers seeking voluntary disbarment in lieu of proceeding with the disciplinary hearing. The Supreme Court accepted those affidavits and issued decisions disbarring those 4 lawyers.

**There was 1 case which encompassed 2 complaints where the lawyer was in the midst of disciplinary proceedings and then filed for voluntary disbarment in lieu of proceeding with the disciplinary hearing. The Court accepted the affidavit and issued a decision disbarring the lawyer.

*** There were 3 cases which encompassed 16 complaints before the Hearing Panels at various stages of the hearing process and the lawyers sought voluntary disbarment in lieu of proceeding with the disciplinary hearing. The Court accepted the affidavits and issued a decision disbarring the lawyers.