

NORTH CAROLINA  
WAKE COUNTY

BEFORE THE  
GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR  
04G1104

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IN THE MATTER OF

Amanda Stroud,  
Attorney At Law

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REPRIMAND

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On July 17, 2008 the Grievance Committee of the North Carolina State Bar met and considered the grievance filed against you by the North Carolina State Bar.

Pursuant to Section .0113(a) of the Discipline and Disability Rules 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, a reprimand, or a 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.

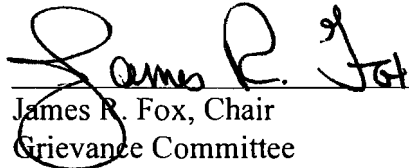
A grievance file was established against you on September 10, 2004, relative to your representation of Uvonne Koonce in a domestic matter. You did not respond promptly to that grievance despite repeated efforts by the State Bar to get your response. Your failure to cooperate in responding to the grievance is in violation of Rule 8.4(d) of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

On July 14, 2004, Ms. Koonce filed a petition for resolution of a disputed fee with the North Carolina State Bar. You were sent notification of the mandatory fee dispute resolution process. However, you did not respond to Ms. Koonce's fee dispute petition. A second letter of notification was sent to you, wherein you were asked to respond. You failed to respond to the second notice regarding Ms. Koonce's fee dispute petition. Your failure to respond to the fee dispute petition violates Rule 1.5(f) and Rule 8.4(d) of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

You are hereby reprimanded by the North Carolina State Bar for 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 \$100.00 are hereby taxed to you.

Done and ordered, this the 10th day of August, 2008

  
James R. Fox, Chair  
Grievance Committee

JRF/lr