



May 21, 2019

Dear Governor Cooper:

On May 8, 2019 we forwarded you a letter regarding some concerns with the North Carolina State Bar. We have yet to hear back. I will recap those concerns, as well a recently developed concern:

- 1) On October 12, 2017, our organization filed a formal complaint with the North Carolina State Bar regarding conduct that we believed to be inappropriate. *Boyce v. N.C. State Bar*, 814 S.E.2d 127 (N.C. App., 2018) requires that the State Bar seek outside review for such a complaint. However, the State Bar dismissed our complaint without any external review.
- 2) We have been following the *NC State Bar v. Alan Phillips*, 18 CVS 5645 (Wake County) civil lawsuit and have recently developed concerns with how the case is being adjudicated. Providing the court with no evidence of wrongdoing, and in a fishing expedition, the North Carolina State Bar has requested - and was granted - a court order to compel Attorney Phillips to provide confidential records protected by attorney-client privilege. While pursuing an appeal of this court order, Attorney Phillips was held in contempt of court, violating judicial procedure that requires the court to wait on the outcome of such an appeal before enforcing the court order. Attorney Phillips has now been sent to jail three times as a result of this retaliatory lawsuit.

You, Governor Cooper, are a representative of the public's interest. It is in the public's interest to ensure that honorable attorneys aren't blackballed by the State Bar in retaliatory lawsuits. Ohio Advocates for Medical Freedom respectfully requests that you immediately pursue an independent review of the alleged State Bar misconduct, as well as a review of Judge Keith O. Gregory's questionable conduct.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Stock
President, OAMF