



Director's Story, Part 3: Complaints Against Bar Attorneys and Officers

NOTE: NC State Bar employee-attorneys and/or officers are not above the law! Sign one of our petitions now: Petition for Attorneys (<https://www.change.org/p/investigate-the-nc-bar>), Petition for Non-Attorneys (<https://www.change.org/p/no-attorney-is-above-the-law>).

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I. When Phillips determined that the Grievance Committee Chair's Letter of Warning contradicted both facts and law, he submitted a complaint against NC Bar attorneys to the NC State Bar Grievance Committee, as required by the NC Ethical Rules for attorneys. When the initial alleged misconduct was subsequently compounded, Phillips twice amended his complaint.

II. Phillips is a nationally known activist. When the woman who complained about Phillips to the Bar received a letter from the Bar Grievance Chair informing her of Phillips' 2017 Letter of Warning, she promptly posted her letter on the Internet, in a retaliatory act intended to publicly shame Phillips. However, as the Grievance Chair's letter contradicted statements posted on Facebook by both the complainor and Phillips at relevant times prior to the Bar's 2016–2017 investigation of Phillips, there was sufficient information available to anyone with Internet access to form the basis for a good-faith complaint against the NC State Bar Grievance Chair, independent of Phillips' complaint against NC Bar attorneys. Indeed, a few activist organizations around the country filed complaints against the Grievance Chair, with information from the Internet supporting their complaints. Of course, Bar attorneys can't lawfully assess complaints against themselves, but that is exactly what the NC State Bar attorneys have done—suppressed these complaints, preventing them from being properly

addressed, which gives the appearance that they have something to hide. Ironically, the Bar's suppression of good-faith complaints constitutes an ethical violation in and of itself, separate and apart from the merits of the allegations in those complaints.

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