

**ANNUAL REPORT OF LAWYER DISCIPLINE IN SOUTH CAROLINA
2010 - 2011**

COMPLAINTS PENDING & RECEIVED:

Complaints Pending June 30, 2010	937
Complaints Received July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011	<u>1442</u>
Total Complaints Pending and Received	<u>2379</u>

DISPOSITION OF COMPLAINTS:

Dismissed:

By Disciplinary Counsel after initial review	184
By Disciplinary Counsel after investigation	548
By Investigative Panel	259
By Supreme Court	<u>3*</u>
Total Dismissed	<u>994</u>

Not Dismissed:

Referred to Other Agency	3
Closed But Not Dismissed	9
Closed Due to Death of Lawyer	1
Deferred Discipline Agreement	6
Letter of Caution	180
Admonition	28
Public Reprimand	30
Suspension	36
Disbarment	62
Contempt Order (UPL)	<u>0</u>
Total Not Dismissed	<u>355</u>

Total Complaints Concluded	<u>(1349)</u>
Total complaints pending as of June 30, 2011	1030

*The Supreme Court dismissed two contempt proceedings and one reciprocal discipline matter.

Sources of Complaints		Case Types	
Client or family/friend of client	62.96%	Criminal	39.96%
Opposing party or family/friend	13.83%	Domestic	15.78%
Bank (overdraft notice)	5.70%	Probate	7.82%
Another attorney	4.24%	Real estate	4.81%
Third party payee (incl. court reporters)	2.15%	Post-conviction relief	3.09%
Disciplinary counsel	1.74%	Personal Injury	3.09%
Self-report	1.11%	Debt collection/foreclosure	2.15%
Ward or family/friend of ward	1.04%	Workers' compensation	1.87%
Judge	1.04%	Employment/labor	1.15%
Family/friend of lawyer	<1.00%	<u>Bankruptcy</u>	<u><1.00%</u>
Anonymous	<1.00%	Other civil matters	17.50%
Employee	<1.00%	<u>Miscellaneous case types</u>	<u>2.37%</u>
Resolution of Fee Disputes Board	<1.00%	Trust account issues	7.06%
Other	3.82%	Advertising & solicitation	1.72%
		Personal conduct	4.52%

Practice Types

Solo practice	38.87%	Other government	2.72%
Law firm	35.17%	Guardian <i>ad litem</i>	1.19%
Public defender	16.89%	Corporate counsel	<1.00%
Prosecutor	4.26%	Mediator/arbitrator	<1.00%

COMMISSION ON LAWYER CONDUCT

COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS:

Meetings of Investigative Panels	12
Formal Charges Filed	9
Disciplinary Hearings	10
Incapacity Proceedings	3
Meetings of Full Commission	1

REQUESTS FOR DISMISSAL REVIEW:

Requests for Review by Complainant	58
Dismissal Affirmed	51
Case Remanded for Further Investigation	4
Dismissal Review Pending	3

ATTORNEYS TO PROTECT CLIENTS' INTERESTS:

Serving as of July 1, 2010	30
Appointed	+14
Discharged	<u>-17</u>
Serving as of June 30, 2011	<u>27</u>

LAWYERS BEING MONITORED:

New Monitor Files Opened	64
Lawyers Currently Monitored	87

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

ATTORNEYS TO ASSIST DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL:

Complaints Assigned to Attorneys to Assist	35
Reports Filed by Attorneys to Assist	52
Outstanding Attorney to Assist Reports	21

SUPREME COURT

ORDERS*:

Dismissal	3
Letter of Caution	1
Admonition	12
Public Reprimand	11
Definite Suspension	13
Disbarment	11
Transfer to Incapacity Inactive	3
Interim Suspension	7
Reinstatement	8

*These figures represent the number of orders issued by the Supreme Court, not complaints. Some orders conclude multiple complaints.

COMPLAINTS:

Complaints resolved	147
Pending as of June 30, 2011	78