



# Ohio Board of Professional Conduct

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**TO: Disciplinary Counsel, Bar Counsel, Certified Grievance Committees, and Respondents' Counsel**

**FROM: Rick Dove**

**DATE: December 2021**

**RE: Bimonthly Update**

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## December Board Meeting

The Board of Professional Conduct held its final meeting of the year on December 10. The Board approved [six case reports](#), including one judicial discipline report and one reinstatement report.

The Board has 24 pending cases, including seven cases opened this month. As of December 15, the Board has opened just 35 new cases this year and disposed of 69 cases.

## Advisory Opinions

The Board approved two advisory opinions on December 10, each replacing or consolidating older opinions. [Adv. Op. 2021-11](#) addresses the propriety of a judge receiving compensation for speaking or teaching and replaces three former advisory opinions from the 1980s and 1990s. [Adv. Op. 2021-12](#) updates prior advice from the Board on the ability of a judge to provide a letter of reference under a variety of circumstances.

## Board Leadership and Membership

The Board unanimously reelected Commissioners Patricia Wise and Judge Chris Cook to their second terms as Board chair and vice-chair, respectively.

The Board also said farewell to Commissioners Bob Fitzgerald, Adrian Thompson, and Judge John Wise. Commissioners Fitzgerald and Wise each completed their third, three-year term,

and both served in leadership positions—Commissioner Wise as Board chair from 2019-2020, and Commissioner Fitzgerald as chair of the Advisory Opinion Committee for the past three years. Commissioner Thompson finished a three-year term on the Board and did not seek reappointment due, in part, to his responsibility in 2022 to serve as president of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association. I thank them for their service and commitment to our work.

### **Probable Cause Deadlines**

The Board's [probable cause schedule](#) for 2022 is available from the Board's website. Please be cognizant of this schedule as you prepare complaints for submission to the Board next year.

### **Miller-Becker Seminar Videos**

Video recordings of the sessions presented at the October 29 Miller-Becker Seminar are available to view and download from the [Board's website](#). The seminar presentations received excellent evaluations, and the video recordings are good education tools for those who missed the seminar or who are new to the disciplinary process.

### **Happy Holidays**

On behalf of the Board, I thank each of you for your continued contributions to Ohio's disciplinary process and wish you and your family a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season.