



# Ohio Board of Professional Conduct

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

**FROM:** Rick Dove

**DATE:** October 2024

**RE:** Bimonthly Update

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## October Board Meeting

The Board of Professional Conduct held met on October 4 and approved [five case reports](#), each of which was filed with the Supreme Court the afternoon of October. The approved reports include one 88-page report recommending discipline for judicial misconduct, reports in two attorney misconduct cases, and two reinstatement matters. The Board's final meeting of the year is December 13.

The Board has 18 pending cases, 15 of which have been opened this year. Four of the pending matters are judicial misconduct cases, one of which has been heard, one of which is scheduled for hearing, and two of which are awaiting answers.

## Advisory Opinion

Also on October 4, the Board approved [Adv. Op. 2024-5](#) addressing a lawyer's responsibility when receiving inadvertently disclosed information in response to a public records request. This opinion is a rewrite of former Adv. Op. 1993-11, which was withdrawn by the Board.

## Probable Cause Deadlines

The final probable cause deadlines for 2024 are October 25 and December 2. Please submit your probable cause materials in accordance with these deadlines to facilitate review and processing. New complaints with probable cause waivers may be e-Filed at any time.

## **2024 Miller-Becker Seminar**

Late last month, you received a link to register for the October 25 Miller-Becker Seminar at the Akron Law School. As of this writing, 136 registrations have been received. The deadline for registration is October 16.

## **Grievance Committees—Indirect Cost Reimbursement Policy**

As referenced in the August update, the Board's Budget and Personnel Committee undertook an examination of indirect expense reimbursements to grievance committees and discussed concepts to promote greater fiscal responsibility with regard to those reimbursements. Although I indicated the committee's recommendations would likely be presented to the Board in December, the process moved more quickly than I anticipated. The committee's recommendations were finalized in late September and presented to the Board at the October 4 meeting. The Board unanimously approved a reimbursement policy that will go into effect in January.

In the coming weeks, staff will be updating the existing reimbursement and instructions for use in 2025. The new policy will first apply to reimbursements for the first quarter of calendar year 2025—those that are due on or before May 1, 2025—and most provisions of the policy will impact grievance committees who employ bar counsel and other staff. More information will be provided prior to the end of this calendar year.