



Ohio Board of Professional Conduct

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Memorandum

To: Disciplinary Counsel, Bar Counsel, Certified Grievance Committees, and Respondents' Counsel

From: Elizabeth T. Smith, Director

Date: August 19, 2026

Re: Director's Bi-Monthly Report

August Board Meeting Reports

At its meeting on August 7, 2026, the Board approved for submission to the Supreme Court the following:

[Disciplinary Counsel v. Wesley Alton Johnston, Case No. 2026-1064](#)

[Disciplinary Counsel v. Hui Li, Case No. 2026-1074](#)

[Disciplinary Counsel v. Kristina Jo Sims, Case No. 2026-1067](#)

[Disciplinary Counsel v. Mark Andrew Snider, Case No. 2026-1068](#)

[Disciplinary Counsel v. Charles Tyler, Sr., Case No. 2026-1062](#)

[Disciplinary Counsel v. Jeffrey Lee Amick, Case No. 2026-1059](#)

End of Fiscal Year Expenditure Report and Interim Grievance Data Report

Provided herewith is the end of the fiscal year 2026 expenditure report. The Certified Grievance Committees are to be commended for all of their hard work this past fiscal year in their continuing analysis of expenditures and fiscal management. The Director and Board continue to work with the Committees to address issues of rule interpretation, budget caps and future expectations.

Grievance Data

Two quarters of grievance data reporting shows a total of 2869 grievances filed thus far this year, with 2208 or 77% being filed with the Office of Disciplinary Counsel. It would appear at this time that (1) grievances filed are tracking higher than last year and (2) the percentage is up for the CGCs. We do not expect, however, that filings with the Board will increase with only five months left in the calendar year. As of this date, the Board has had only 29 new cases filed this year with 15 more that have been held over.

By the same token, 3124 grievances have been closed with 80% of those being closed by ODC. Thus, the majority of time is spent by ODC and the CGCs in handling and investigating grievances.

There have been 250 appeals from ODC dismissals filed as a result of the rule change which became effective in January with the largest majority of those appeals going to the OSBA.

New Hire

The Board is pleased to announce that Karen Osmond will be joining the Board staff as “Counsel” on September 14, 2026. As many of you know, Ms. Osmond is currently with the Office of Disciplinary Counsel and brings with her a wealth of knowledge in this very specialized area of the law. We look forward to her joining us and becoming an integral part of our small team.

Miller-Becker Seminar: October 23, 2026

Registration will open for the Miller-Becker annual seminar the third week of September. Space is limited as the seminar is being held in Columbus at the Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center. An opportunity to attend via Zoom will also be available. Also, please plan to stay for a reception at 1:30 p.m. when the President of the Ohio State Bar Association presents former Board Director Rick Dove with the Eugene R. Weir Award for Ethics and Professionalism.

Board Staff Presentations

Along with their duties of Board support, providing of daily guidance to lawyers, judges, and judicial candidates, and a plethora of administrative obligations, Board Staff continues to be busy presenting at various bar associations, other professional organizations, judicial candidate training and new judge orientations, with approximately 20 presentations left to make for the rest of the year.