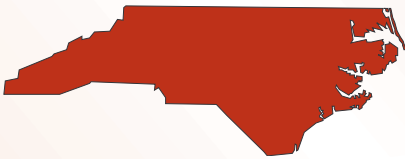


# Lawyer Discipline

## REPORT CARD

### NORTH CAROLINA

Overall Grade: **F**



**About North Carolina's Lawyer Discipline System:**

Ranked 50th in the nation overall. Only one disciplinary agency earned a lower grade.

↓ Received an F in Public Participation because non-lawyers are not allowed to serve on lawyer discipline hearing committees.

↓ When a HALT staff member contacted the North Carolina State Bar Office of the Counsel, he was transferred several times before he was put in touch with someone who could answer inquiries about the lawyer discipline process. Once he was able to get ahold of someone at the Office, the individual refused to answer questions on the telephone and required that all inquiries be made in writing. This does not speak well of the North Carolina State Bar's responsiveness to legal consumers.

↓ Received an *Incomplete* for Adequacy of Discipline because the North Carolina State Bar does not keep statistics about how many grievances are investigated and of those investigated complaints, how many lead to discipline.\*

↓ Also received an *Incomplete* for Promptness because the bar does not keep records pertaining to its timeliness in filing formal charges and imposing sanctions against attorneys.\*

\* According to the most recent statistics from the American Bar Association, which derive from the 2000 ABA Survey on Lawyer Discipline Systems.

Adequacy of Discipline Imposed	INCOMPLETE
Publicity and Responsiveness	C-
Openness of the Process	C+
Fairness of Disciplinary Procedures	C
Public Participation	F
Promptness	INCOMPLETE
<b>Overall Grade</b>	<b>F</b>

Compiled by  
**HALT**  
 An Organization of  
 Americans for Legal Reform

To file a grievance against an attorney licensed in North Carolina, obtain a complaint form from the State Bar's Grievance Committee by calling (919) 828-4620 or writing to: The Grievance Committee, North Carolina State Bar, P.O. Box 25908, Raleigh, NC 27611