

Lawyer Discipline

REPORT CARD



VIRGINIA

Overall Grade: **D+**

About Virginia's Lawyer Discipline System:

Ranked 40th in the nation overall.

↓ Received an F for Adequacy of Discipline because the Virginia State Bar investigates less than half of all grievances received, and of those complaints that are investigated, less than three percent lead to public discipline (i.e., disbarment, suspension, public censure or reprimand).*

↓↑ While the Virginia State Bar requests that individuals keep their grievances confidential, a consumer who wishes to speak publicly about his or her grievance will not be held in contempt of court.

↑ Earned a B for Openness of the Process because grievants as well as the general public may attend lawyer discipline hearings in Virginia. In addition, the names of sanctioned attorneys are publicized in Virginia newspapers and on the Virginia State Bar website.

↓ Received an *Incomplete* for Promptness because the Virginia State Bar does not keep a record of its timeliness in filing formal charges and imposing sanctions after grievances are received.*

* 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	F
Publicity and Responsiveness	C
Openness of the Process	B
Fairness of Disciplinary Procedures	C
Public Participation	D
Promptness	INCOMPLETE
Overall Grade	D+



To file a grievance against an attorney licensed in Virginia, download an online complaint form at www.vsb.org/complain.html or obtain a form from the Intake Office of the Virginia State Bar by calling (804) 775-0570.