Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline

Annual Report
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Dear Chief Justice O’Connor and Justices of the Supreme Court:

Pursuant to Gov.Bar R. V, I respectfully submit this annual report of the Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline for the year 2011.

The past year was one of significant transition. The board undertook a search to find a successor to longtime secretary, Jonathan W. Marshall, who announced his retirement, effective June 30. Chief Counsel Ruth Bope Dangel retired at the end of May following 20 years of service to the board. Together, Mr. Marshall and Ms. Dangel had more than 40 years of tenure with the board, and their service to our profession and the people of Ohio will be a standard to emulate for many years to come.

The end of 2011 marked the departure of six commissioners whose combined service on the board totaled a half century. Judges Thomas F. Bryant, Arlene Singer and John B. Street, attorneys Walter Reynolds and John Siegenthaler, and public member Lisa Lancione Fabbro concluded terms that were marked by significant individual contributions to the work of the board. Judges Bryant and Singer are past board chairs, and both served on a Supreme Court task force that helped write the new Ohio Code of Judicial Conduct that was adopted in 2009.

While navigating this leadership transition, the board:

- Added a record number of cases to its docket
- Issued three new advisory opinions
- Completed work on amendments to Gov. Bar R. V to address reinstatement proceedings, default judgments and probable cause determinations
- Presented at two dozen continuing education seminars for judges, lawyers and court personnel
- Responded to more than 1,200 written and telephone inquiries regarding application of the Code of Judicial Conduct and Rules of Professional Conduct.

In April, I was honored to be selected as the board’s third full-time secretary. My immediate predecessor left a legacy of achievement that will be difficult to match. However, my commitment to the Supreme Court, the board, my colleagues in the legal profession and the people of Ohio is to work each day to conduct the work of this board in a fair and efficient manner and promote the highest standards of ethics and conduct within our profession. The citizens of this state expect and deserve nothing less.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Dove, Esq.
Secretary to the Board
The Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline consists of 28 members who are appointed to three-year terms by the Supreme Court of Ohio. The 2011 membership consisted of 17 attorneys, seven active or retired judges and four non-attorneys.

**Chairman**

Steven C. Rodeheffer served as chairman in 2011 and led the board through its first leadership transition in 22 years. Mr. Rodeheffer has 35 years of experience as a private practitioner in Portsmouth and is serving his third full term on the board.

**Vice-Chairman**

Lawrence R. Elleman is a retired partner with the Cincinnati law firm of Dinsmore & Shohl. Mr. Elleman has 40 years of experience in all phases of commercial trial practice and alternative dispute resolution. He has been on the board since 2007 and will serve as chair in 2012.
BERNARD K. BAUER is a sole practitioner in Findlay and is serving his third term on the board. In 2011, he chaired the board’s rules committee.

ALVIN R. BELL is a retired educator from Findlay. Mr. Bell has served as a public member of the board since 2007.

HON. THOMAS F. BRYANT from Findlay retired in 2007 after serving three terms on the 3rd District Court of Appeals. Judge Bryant’s tenure on the board includes serving as chairman in 2005.

MARTHA BUTLER CLARK is a public member of the board from Columbus. Her prior public service includes being appointed clerk of the Ohio Senate. She is serving her third term on the board.

CHARLES E. COULSON is the Lake County prosecuting attorney. He has been a board member since 2004.

MCKENZIE K. DAVIS is a Columbus lawyer specializing in government relations. He has served on the board since 2008.

PAUL M. DEMARCO is a lawyer in the Cincinnati firm of Waite, Schneider, Bayless & Chesley. He is serving his second term on the board.

HON. OTTO S. EYSTER has been a judge on the Knox County Court of Common Pleas since 1991. Judge Eyster has served on the board since 2004 and is immediate past chairman.

ROGER S. GATES is assistant prosecuting attorney in Butler County. He is serving his second term on the board.

SHARON L. HARWOOD is a lawyer with the Fisher-Titus Medical Center in Norwalk. She was appointed to the board in 2010.

HON. LEE H. HILDEBRANDT was appointed to the board in 2011 and has served on the 1st District Court of Appeals since 1985.

LYNN B. JACOBS is a former assistant prosecuting attorney from Toledo. She has been a member of the board since 2005.

LISA LANCIONE FABBRO is a former political consultant. The Lorain County resident completed her second term on the board in 2011.

WILLIAM J. NOVAK is the managing partner of the Cleveland firm of Novak, Robenalt & Pavlik. He has served on the board since 2008.

HON. ROBERT RINGLAND was appointed in 2011 to complete an unexpired term. Judge Ringland served as a trial judge in Clermont County for 32 years and has been a judge on the 12th District Court of Appeals since 2009.

JOHN A. POLITO is a lawyer in Cleveland where he worked for many years in the probate division of the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas. Mr. Polito has been a board member since 2010.

WALTER REYNOLDS is a lawyer with the Dayton firm of Porter Wright. He completed his ninth and final year on the board in 2011 during which time he chaired one of the probable cause committees.

HON. JOHN H. SIEGENTHALER has served on the board since 2006 and chaired one of the board’s two probable cause committees in 2011. Mr. Siegenthaler is a retired lawyer from Mansfield and completed his second full term on the board in 2011.
Judge W. Scott Gwin is a member of the 5th District Court of Appeals and served on the board from 1996 to 2001. Judge Singer’s tenure on the board included serving as chair in 2008 and 2009, and in 2011 as chair of the search committee appointed to interview candidates for the position of secretary to the board.

Jeffrey T. Heintz practices law in Canton and served on the board from 2001 to 2006. He chaired the board in 2006.

Paula Hicks-Hudson is a lawyer in Toledo and served on the board from 2001 to 2006.

Joseph L. Wittenberg practices in Toledo and served on the board from 1999 to 2004 and 2007 to 2009.

The following master commissioners were assigned to review motions for default judgment in 2011.

**Master Commissioners**

The following master commissioners were assigned to review motions for default judgment in 2011.

Hon. Arlene Singer completed her third and final term on the board in 2011. She has served on the 6th District Court of Appeals in Lucas County since 2002. Judge Singer’s tenure on the board included serving as chair in 2008 and 2009, and in 2011 as chair of the search committee appointed to interview candidates for the position of secretary to the board.

Patrick L. Sink is a former law enforcement officer and presently is the business manager for Local 18 of the International Union of Operating Engineers in Cleveland. He has served as a public member of the board since 2006.

Keith Sommer is a sole practitioner in Martins Ferry. He completed his first full term on the board in 2011.

Hon. John B. Street completed his ninth and final year on the board in 2011 while serving as chair of the advisory opinion committee. Judge Street has served on the Chillicothe Municipal Court since 1996.

David E. Tschantz is an insurance executive in Wooster. He has been a member of the board since 2007 and was elected as vice-chairman for 2012.

Janica Pierce Tucker is a labor and employment law attorney in the Columbus firm of Taft, Stettinius & Hollister. She completed her first term on the board in 2011.

Sanford Watson was appointed to the board in March to complete an unexpired term. Mr. Watson is litigation counsel in the Cleveland firm of Tucker, Ellis & West and formerly served as public safety director for the city of Cleveland.

Irene Keyes-Walker was appointed to her third term on the board in 2010 and served through March 2011. Ms. Keyes-Walker is a partner in the Cleveland firm of Tucker, Ellis & West and chaired the board from 1992 to 1993.

Hon. Beth Whitmore has served on the 9th District Court of Appeals since 1999, and previously was in private practice and a common pleas court judge. Judge Whitmore has served on the board since 2005.

**Hon. Arlene Singer** completed her third and final term on the board in 2011. She has served on the 6th District Court of Appeals in Lucas County since 2002. Judge Singer’s tenure on the board included serving as chair in 2008 and 2009, and in 2011 as chair of the search committee appointed to interview candidates for the position of secretary to the board.

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Richard A. Dove, secretary to the board, was appointed as the third full-time secretary of the board on May 16, after serving for more than 22 years on Supreme Court staff. Mr. Dove is recognized in Ohio and nationally for his judicial ethics work, with a focus on judicial campaign conduct. He is a frequent instructor for professional associations such as the Ohio Judicial College and Institute for Court Management, and received the 2007 Award of Merit from the Columbus Bar Association. Mr. Dove is a graduate of Wittenberg University and Capital University Law School and is admitted to practice in Ohio, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Michelle A. Hall, senior staff counsel joined the staff in June 2011 following service as the Supreme Court attorney services counsel and secretary to the Supreme Court Board on the Unauthorized Practice of Law. She also has served as an administrative hearing examiner and assistant attorney general for the state of Ohio. Her primary responsibilities include researching and drafting board advisory opinions, responding to professional ethics inquiries and conducting ethics seminars. Ms. Hall is a graduate of The Ohio State University and the Wake Forest University School of Law. She is admitted to practice in Ohio and the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio.

Anne M. Butcher, senior deputy clerk, processes case filings, maintains the board’s case docket, assists commissioners in scheduling hearings and assists in the preparation of board meeting agendas, meeting materials and minutes.

Michele L. Pennington, fiscal specialist, provides administrative and fiscal support, including the processing and payment of all invoices and reimbursement requests from board members and certified grievance committees and preparing monthly budget reports for the secretary and commissioners.

Faith Long, administrative secretary, provides clerical support to board staff, prepares subpoenas requested by counsel, and maintains records of more than 1,800 financial disclosure statements filed annually by judges, magistrates and judicial candidates.

Matthew P. Dodovich, law clerk, assists the secretary and counsel in performing legal research and summarizing disciplinary case decisions. Mr. Dodovich was admitted to the practice of law in Ohio in November 2011.
Board Responsibilities

The Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline was established by the Supreme Court in 1957 to assist the court in executing its plenary and constitutional responsibilities to regulate the practice of law in Ohio.

The board derives its legal authority from Gov.Bar R. V and Gov.Jud.R. II and III. The board is primarily responsible for adjudicating allegations of professional misconduct on the part of lawyers and judges and making recommendations to the Supreme Court regarding the appropriate sanctions when a lawyer or judge engages in professional misconduct. The board also considers petitions from lawyers who are seeking to be reinstated to the practice of law following indefinite or mental illness suspensions. In any one case, commissioners are asked to make factual findings, reach legal conclusions and evaluate expert testimony from medical professionals and treatment providers. In crafting the appropriate sanction to be recommended to the Supreme Court, commissioners must often balance the competing interests of protecting the public, punishing a lawyer who has strayed, and displaying compassion for a lawyer who may be suffering from chemical dependency or mental disability that contributed to his or her misconduct.
See Appendix A of this report for a disciplinary process flowchart.

Although not expressly set forth in Rule V, the board also plays a significant role in promoting and enhancing compliance with the standards of professional ethics by members of the Ohio bench and bar. The board issues nonbinding advisory opinions regarding prospective or hypothetical application of the rules governing the professional conduct of lawyers and judges. Since 1987, the board has released more than 375 formal advisory opinions. Board staff regularly make presentations at bar and judicial association meetings and continuing education seminars and respond daily to telephone and e-mail inquiries from lawyers, judges, judicial candidates and members of the public.

2011 Overview

The year 2011 was one of transition for the Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline. In late 2010, longtime secretary Jonathan W. Marshall announced that he would retire in mid-2011 after nearly 22 years of service to the Supreme Court and the board and a career of public service that spanned 41 years. Mr. Marshall’s leadership and devotion to the legal profession and professional ethics will be long remembered by the many members of this board with whom he served and the thousands of judges and lawyers who sought his counsel.

Mr. Marshall was joined in retirement by the Senior Staff Counsel Ruth Bope Dangel. Ms. Dangel came to the board in 1990 and focused her energies on promoting compliance with professional ethics standards. In her more than 20 years as legal counsel, Ms. Dangel communicated with thousands of lawyers and judges who were seeking advice, and participated in several CLE programs for attorneys in both public and private practice. She also drafted more than 200 advisory opinions issued by the board during her tenure, the vast majority of which endure today as the basis of advice to judges and lawyers.

Under the exemplary leadership of Chairman Stephen C. Rodeheffer, the board moved quickly to address the imminent departure of its two most senior staff members. Former board chair, Judge Arlene Singer, headed a search committee to interview candidates for the position of board secretary. The search committee solicited applications in January and interviewed candidates in February. In April, the board approved and announced the selection of Richard A. Dove as the third full-time secretary. Mr. Dove commenced his duties on May 16.

One of Mr. Dove’s first responsibilities as secretary was hiring a new board counsel. After a series of interviews in late May, Michelle A. Hall was introduced on June 10 and commenced her duties on June 20.

Amid this transition, the board continued to execute its responsibilities under Gov.Bar R. V. A record 126 new cases and other matters were filed with or referred to the board, and
the board disposed of 108 matters. The rules committee finalized amendments governing reinstatements to the practice of law and prepared new amendments to alter the default judgment process. The advisory opinion committee reviewed 18 opinion requests and approved three opinions for issuance by the board. The budget and personnel committee conducted the annual review of Disciplinary Counsel and approved the budget for fiscal year 2012.

Having successfully navigated the transition in leadership, the board is well-positioned to address the challenges and opportunities in 2012 and beyond.

Adjudicatory Responsibilities

In 2011, the board received a record number of new case filings and referrals from the Supreme Court. There were 115 formal complaints certified to the board, two of which involved allegations of judicial misconduct and judicial campaign conduct complaints, for a total of 117 new cases presented to the board. In addition, the Supreme Court directed the board to review seven petitions from lawyers who were seeking reinstatement to the practice of law following indefinite suspensions, and the board received two petitions from lawyers seeking reinstatement following mental illness suspensions.

The board scheduled and conducted 66 panel hearings, and commissioners spent 73 days in hearings in 2011.

The board held six business meetings over eight days to consider reports from three-member hearing panels and master commissioners, and to review and approve recommendations from its committees. The board reviewed and voted on 90 case-related matters:

- 55 full-panel reports
- 11 reports recommending acceptance to a consent-to-discipline agreement
- 20 reports granting motions for default judgments
- 4 petitions for reinstatement.

In addition, board panels conducted hearings in two judicial campaign misconduct cases and certified findings and recommendations in those cases to the Supreme Court.
The board disposed of 108 cases in 2011:

- 89 reports certified to the Supreme Court
- 4 dismissals on the merits
- 4 consolidations
- 11 dismissals due to the respondent’s resignation from the practice of law.

At the end of 2011, 98 cases were pending on the docket. Sixty-eight of those cases were assigned to hearing panels, and three motions for default judgment were referred to master commissioners for review. Seven cases are awaiting motions for default judgment from relator, and 16 cases are awaiting answers from the respondents. Two cases are stayed pending a decision from the Supreme Court regarding acceptance of the respondents’ applications to resign with discipline pending, and two cases are stayed because of imposition of mental illness suspensions.

Advisory Opinions

Gov.Bar R. V authorizes the Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline to issue nonbinding advisory opinions that address prospective or hypothetical questions involving application of the Supreme Court Rules for the Government of the Bar of Ohio, Supreme Court Rules for the Government of the Judiciary of Ohio, Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct, Ohio Code of Judicial Conduct, and the Attorney Oath of Office. The Revised Code also provides authority for the board to issue advisory opinions regarding application of the Ohio Ethics Law to judicial branch officers.

Regulations set forth guidelines that govern the board’s consideration of advisory opinion requests. These guidelines provide that a request:

- Should pose a question of broad interest or importance to the Ohio bar or judiciary
- Should not involve the proposed conduct of someone other than the person requesting the opinion
- Should not involve completed conduct, questions of law, questions pending before a court, questions that are too broad, questions that lack sufficient information or questions of narrow interest.
Written requests are reviewed initially by the board’s counsel, in consultation with the five-member advisory opinion committee. The committee may accept or decline a request or direct staff to respond by staff letter. If the committee accepts a request, counsel is directed to research the issue or issues presented and prepare a draft opinion. The opinion is submitted to the committee for review and approval, and the committee then submits a recommended opinion to the board for its consideration and issuance.

Advisory opinions are published on the board’s website and distributed to an array of legal and professional organizations within and outside Ohio. Since the board was first given authority to provide advisory opinions in 1986, it has issued approximately 375 opinions.

The board issued three advisory opinions in 2011. Opinion 2011-1 addressed the propriety of a plaintiff’s lawyer entering into a settlement agreement that includes a clause under which the lawyer agrees to indemnify the opposing party, from the settlement proceeds, for any third-party claims.

Opinion 2011-2 addressed a question of first impression, in Ohio and nationally, under Prof.Cond.R. 5.5(c)(4). The opinion holds that an out-of-state lawyer may not provide debt settlement services in Ohio when those services do not arise out of and are not reasonably related to the lawyer’s practice in his or her jurisdiction of admission.

The board’s final opinion revisited an earlier opinion in light of the 2009 revisions to the Ohio Code of Judicial Conduct. Opinion 2011-3 responded to a question of whether a judge could endorse or recommend a candidate for bar association elective office. The board examined its Advisory Opinion 1991-29 and the provisions of Jud. Cond. R. 1.2 and 1.3, and ratified the earlier conclusion that a judicial endorsement or recommendation was impermissible under the 2009 Code.

The board also may elect to respond to opinion requests with a staff letter. Staff letters are a means of addressing a request where the response is dictated by case law or prior opinions of the board. Staff letters are not published but are maintained in the board offices. Board staff authored two notable staff letters in 2011. One letter addressed a lawyer’s ethical obligations in responding to a request from the Ohio Division of Unclaimed Funds to audit the lawyer’s trust account. A second letter discussed the extent to which judges could take public positions regarding a proposed amendment to the Ohio Constitution that would have increased the mandatory retirement age for judges.
The board is funded entirely from the Supreme Court of Ohio Attorney Services Fund, which consists primarily of biennial registration fees paid by Ohio lawyers. The board’s budget consists of two primary components.

**Operations Budget**

The Operations Budget funds the Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline, including salaries and benefits for board personnel, telephone, postage, supplies and equipment, expenses associated with board hearings and meetings, and per diems and travel reimbursement paid to board members. Certified grievance committees are reimbursed from the Operations Budget for any expenses incurred directly in connection with an ongoing disciplinary investigation or prosecution. Approximately 10 percent of the Operations Budget is allocated for reimbursement of direct expenses incurred by certified grievance committees.

**Reimbursement Expenses Budget**

The reimbursement of expenses budget compensates Ohio’s 33 certified grievance committees for expenses incurred in performing their responsibilities under Rule V that are unrelated to a specific investigation or prosecution. Committees may request reimbursement for 10 separate categories of indirect expenses, including personnel costs, costs of bar counsel, postage, telephone, books and subscriptions, equipment, and a portion of overhead expenses attributable to performance of disciplinary activities.

In fiscal year 2011, ending June 30, 2011, the board’s operating expenditures represented 11.7 percent of the annual expenditures from the Supreme Court Attorney Services Fund. The indirect expense reimbursements paid to local certified grievance committees represented 19 percent of the annual expenditures from that fund.

*Appendix B* includes information regarding the board’s annual operating expenditures for fiscal years 2009 through 2011, the board’s budget allocations for fiscal year 2012 and an accounting of the board’s fiscal year 2011 expenditures.

Beginning in July, board staff undertook efforts to make more effective and efficient use of technology and reduce operating expenditures. Commissioners were given the option to receive meeting materials in electronic format as a means of expediting delivery and reducing cost. By the end of 2011, 16 commissioners opted for electronic delivery, resulting in a 57 percent reduction in pre-meeting postage and copying expenses. Postage expenses were further reduced by shifting to electronic distribution of other board documents. New advisory opinions are now issued in electronic format to the more than 200 entities and organizations listed in the board’s advisory opinion regulation. Blank financial disclosure statements are...
no longer mailed to approximately 1,800 potential filers. Instead, these forms are available online and mailed only upon request, resulting in a significant decrease in printing and postage costs.

Staff are working with the Supreme Court Office of Information Technology to enhance the board’s electronic docket and case management system with a goal of making the system more useful to staff, commissioners and parties with cases before the board. The two offices commenced work on a system for electronic receipt and storage of the annual financial disclosure statements filed by judges, magistrates and judicial candidates. An electronic filing system will be more convenient for filers, reduce storage space and cost, and expedite responses to public requests for copies of statements.

Staff undertook a review of the board’s publications and subscriptions to ascertain which purchases could be consolidated or eliminated and which publications are available electronically or through the Supreme Court Law Library. By the end of fiscal year 2012, staff expect to reduce the board’s books and subscriptions budget by 80 percent at a savings of $6,400.

The board also approved a proposal to move its bimonthly meetings from an offsite location to the Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center beginning in February 2012. Taking advantage of meeting space and other amenities at the Moyer Judicial Center and lower food and beverage costs will reduce the board’s annual meeting expenses by as much as 60 percent.

Education & Outreach

The board engages in a variety of education and outreach activities for members of the Ohio bar and public. These activities enhance the public’s understanding of the lawyer discipline process and promote adherence to standards of professional ethics by Ohio lawyers and judges. Chief among the board’s activities are presenting at continuing education seminars and meetings of bar and judicial associations and responding to written and telephone inquiries.

In conjunction with the Miller-Becker Institute at the University of Akron Law School and the Ohio State Bar Association, the board again co-sponsored the annual Miller-Becker Seminar. This seminar is hosted for the benefit of the employees and volunteers of the local bar association grievance committees, the Office of Disciplinary Counsel and other professional responsibility lawyers. A live presentation is offered in October, and again in live and video format the following March. Approximately 250 people attended the March replay and the live seminar on October 21. The October 21 seminar, “Can We Be Friends? The Intersection of Legal Ethics, Professionalism, and Technology,” featured presentations on social media and electronic discovery, and a review of cases and advisory opinions from around the country that have addressed the ethical and professional implications of technological advances in the practice of law.
The board’s educational offerings included six judicial candidate seminars, three programs for attorneys in public practice, three presentations at new judge orientation programs, three education sessions for court administrators and personnel, and presentations at the state bar convention and to bar associations in Lorain and Hancock counties.

Board legal staff also respond to written and telephone questions from lawyers, judges and judicial candidates regarding compliance with the Rules of Professional Conduct and Code of Judicial Conduct. In a typical week, staff respond to a minimum of two dozen inquiries. Some inquiries are easily resolved, while others require research and documentation. Board staff also respond to public inquiries regarding the disciplinary process.

The board maintains a Web page with information about the disciplinary process, copies of board advisory opinions and information to assist judges, magistrates and judicial candidates in complying with their ethical and financial disclosure obligations. In 2011, the board added a feature to make all advisory opinions searchable and updated instructions to facilitate completion of financial disclosure statements.

Conclusion

The year 2011 was a watershed year in the 54-year history of the Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline. While celebrating the retirement of two long-serving staff members and commemorating the outstanding service of six departing commissioners, the board received a record number of case filings and continued to fulfill its obligations to the Supreme Court, legal profession, and citizens of Ohio. As we move into a new era of board leadership, the commissioners and staff are well-positioned to discharge their responsibilities to assist and advise the Supreme Court in performing one of its core constitutional responsibilities.
**DISCIPLINARY PROCESS**

Grievances can be made about a judge or attorney to the Disciplinary Counsel or a certified grievance committee of a local bar association. If either of those bodies finds that the grievance has probable cause, a formal complaint is drafted. It then moves to a probable cause panel of the Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline, which determines if there is probable cause. If the panel determines that there is probable cause, the formal complaint becomes public and is filed with the Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline. Hearings are then conducted by the board and if it finds a violation, a recommendation is made to the Supreme Court of Ohio. The Supreme Court of Ohio makes the final decision as to findings of misconduct and issues an appropriate sanction.
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON GRIEVANCES & DISCIPLINE

If no answer is filed:

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON GRIEVANCES & DISCIPLINE ■ Master Commissioner

- If no answer is filed by the subject of the complaint, a motion for default is filed and no hearing is held. A master commissioner is appointed to make a recommendation to the full board.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON GRIEVANCES & DISCIPLINE ■ Three-Member Panel

- If an answer is filed by the subject of the complaint, disciplinary hearings are conducted by a three-member panel and a recommendation is made to the full board as to whether a violation has occurred and the appropriate sanction.

If an answer is filed:

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON GRIEVANCES & DISCIPLINE ■ Full Board

- If the full board agrees with the panel or the master commissioner, it makes a recommendation to the Supreme Court for an appropriate sanction.

THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

- If the full board votes to dismiss the complaint, it is dismissed with no further review.
- The case is filed with the clerk of the Supreme Court, parties may file objections to the board’s report and have an oral argument.
- The Court renders a decision.
# Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline

Annual Operating Expenditures (2009 to 2012)

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Certified Grievance Committees Reimbursed in Fiscal Year 2011
(July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011)

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<td><strong>GRAND TOTAL</strong></td>
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