

The Secretary of Administration has the power and authority, and it is the Secretary's duty, subject to the provisions of this Article:

- ...
- (9) To include a standard clause in all contracts awarded by the State and departments, agencies, and institutions of the State, providing that all of the State Auditor and internal auditors of the affected department, agency, or institution following entities may audit the records of the contractor during and after the term of the contract to verify accounts and data affecting fees or ~~performance.~~performance:
- a. The State Auditor.
 - b. The internal auditors of the affected department, agency, or institution.
 - c. The Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and legislative employees whose primary responsibility is to provide professional or administrative services to the Commission.

...."

SECTION 27.10.(j) Subsection (i) of this section is effective when this act becomes law and applies to contracts entered into on or after that date. The remainder of this section is effective when this act becomes law.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR GRIEVANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE, DISCIPLINARY HEARING COMMISSION, AND BAR FEES

SECTION 27.11.(a) Establishment; Composition. – There is created the State Bar Review Committee (Committee). The Committee shall be composed of seven members as follows:

- (1) One member appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.
- (2) One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (3) One member appointed by the Governor.
- (4) Three members appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina, of which one shall be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina and one shall be a Judge of the North Carolina Court of Appeals.
- (5) The President of the State Bar serving in that position on the date this section becomes law, who shall serve until the Committee terminates.

SECTION 27.11.(b) Terms; Officers; Vacancies; Quorum. – Members shall serve until the Committee expires in accordance with this section. The members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall serve as cochairs for the duration of their terms. The Committee shall meet upon the call of the cochairs. Vacancies shall be filled by the original appointing authority for which the vacancy exists. A majority of the total membership of the Committee shall constitute a quorum of the Committee.

SECTION 27.11.(c) Duties. – The Committee shall review and examine the grievance review process of the North Carolina State Bar conducted in accordance with Article 4 of Chapter 84 of the General Statutes in an effort to improve the effectiveness, fairness, and process of disciplinary and grievance review procedures. The Committee shall review and examine the grievance and complaint process of the North Carolina State Bar, including any rules, procedures, and policies to address the following issues of concern:

- (1) The grievance process, including the role of the Grievance Committee, grievance review panel, and the Disciplinary Hearing Commission.
- (2) Right to due process, right to be heard, and other rights consistent with G.S. 84-30 of the accused person during the grievance and discipline process.
- (3) Sufficiency and thoroughness of the screening, decision making, and review of grievances and complaints.

- (4) The selection, composition, and role of the grievance review panel of the Grievance Committee and the Disciplinary Hearing Commission.
- (5) Role of the North Carolina State Bar Office of Counsel in the grievance process.
- (6) Any other area the Committee deems concerning or needing improvement.

SECTION 27.11.(d) Compensation; Allowance. – Members of the Committee shall receive subsistence and travel allowances in accordance with G.S. 120-3.1, 138-5, and 138-6, as appropriate. The Legislative Services Commission, through the Legislative Services Officer, shall assign professional staff to assist the Committee in its work. Upon direction of the Legislative Services Commission, the Directors of Legislative Assistants of the Senate and of the House of Representatives shall assign clerical staff to the Committee. The expenses for clerical employees shall be borne by the Committee.

SECTION 27.11.(e) Report. – By April 1, 2024, the Committee shall submit a report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations containing any legislative recommendations to address and alleviate the concerns listed in subsection (c) of this section of the grievance review process. The report shall also contain any potential improvements and changes in oversight of the North Carolina State Bar. The Committee shall expire upon submitting the report under this subsection.

SECTION 27.11.(f) G.S. 84-34 reads as rewritten:

"§ 84-34. Membership fees and list of members.

(a) Every active member of the North Carolina State Bar shall, prior to the first day of July of each year, pay to the secretary-treasurer an annual membership fee in an amount determined by the Council but not to exceed ~~three hundred dollars (\$300.00)~~, and every three hundred twenty-five dollars (\$325.00).

(b) Every member shall notify the secretary-treasurer of the member's correct mailing and email address. Any member who fails to pay the required dues by the last day of June of each year shall be subject to a late fee in an amount determined by the Council but not to exceed thirty dollars (\$30.00). All dues for prior years shall be as were set forth in the General Statutes then in effect. The membership fee shall be regarded as a service charge for the maintenance of the several services authorized by this Article, and shall be in addition to all fees required in connection with admissions to practice, and in addition to all license taxes required by law. The fee shall not be prorated: ~~Provided, that no fee shall be required of an~~ prorated or waived, except for the following:

- (1) An attorney licensed after this Article shall have gone into effect shall not be liable for dues until the first day of January of the calendar year following that in which the attorney was licensed; but this proviso shall not apply to attorneys from other states admitted on certificate.
- (2) A member serving in the Armed Forces, whether in a legal or nonlegal capacity, will be exempt from payment of dues for any year in which the member is on full-time active duty in the military, including members of the National Guard and Reserves called to active duty beyond regularly scheduled monthly and annual trainings.

(c) The fees shall be disbursed by the secretary-treasurer on the order of the Council. The secretary-treasurer shall annually, at a time and in a law magazine or daily newspaper to be prescribed by the Council, publish an account of the financial transactions of the Council in a form to be prescribed by it. The secretary-treasurer shall compile and keep currently correct from the names and mailing addresses forwarded to the secretary-treasurer and from any other available sources of information a list of members of the North Carolina State Bar and furnish to the clerk of the superior court in each county, not later than the first day of October in each year, a list showing the name and address of each attorney for that county who has not complied with the provisions of this Article. The name of each of the active members who are in arrears in the