

**ANNUAL REPORT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE IN SOUTH CAROLINA  
2020-2021**

**COMPLAINTS PENDING & RECEIVED:**

Complaints Pending June 30, 2020	36
Complaints Received July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021	213
<b>Total Complaints Pending and Received</b>	<b><u>249</u></b>

**DISPOSITION OF COMPLAINTS:**

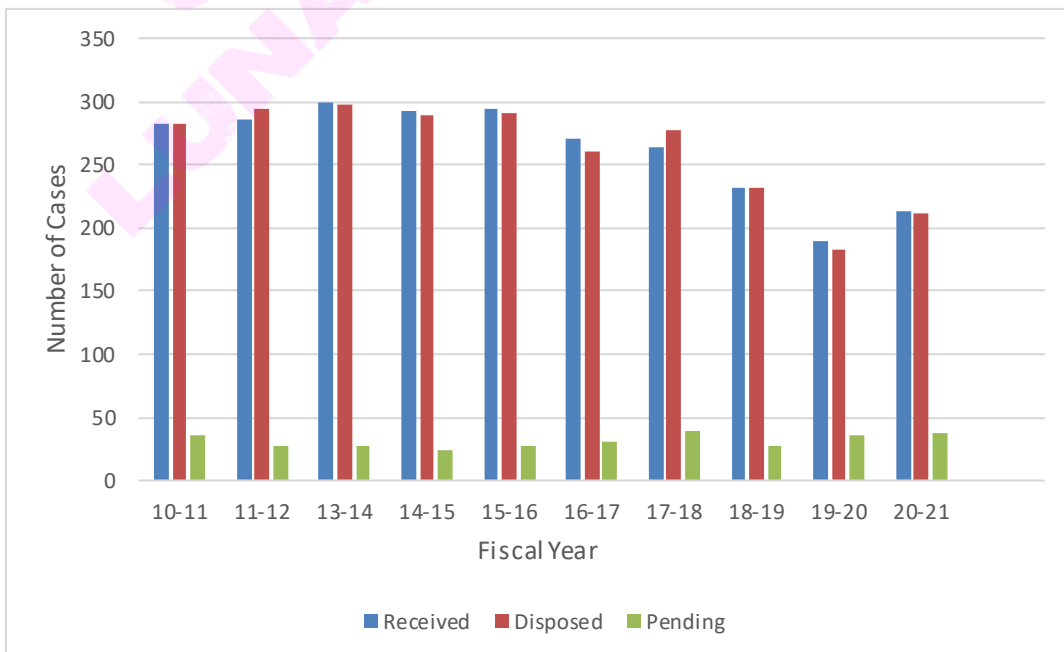
**Dismissed:**

By Disciplinary Counsel after initial review (no jurisdiction)	136
By Disciplinary Counsel after investigation (lack of evidence)	50
By Investigative Panel	11
By Supreme Court	0
<b>Total Dismissed</b>	<b><u>197</u></b>

**Not Dismissed:**

Referred to Other Agency	0
Closed But not Dismissed	0
Closed Due to Death	0
Deferred Discipline Agreement	0
Letter of Caution	10
Admonition	4
Public Reprimand	1
Suspension	0
Removal From Office	0
<b>Total Not Dismissed</b>	<b><u>15</u></b>

<b>Total Complaints Resolved</b>	<b><u>212</u></b>
<b>Total Complaints Pending as of June 30, 2021</b>	<b><u>37</u></b>



**JUDICIAL POSITION:**

Circuit	29.72%	<b>Less than 1%</b>
Magistrate	26.89%	Referee
Family	15.57%	
Probate	10.38%	
Municipal	6.13%	
Appellate	5.66%	
Master-In-Equity	2.36%	
Unknown	2.36%	

**SOURCE OF COMPLAINT:**

Litigant	82.08%	<b>Less than 1%</b>
Family/Friend of Litigant	3.30%	Self-Report
Citizen	2.83%	Anonymous
Attorney	1.89%	Public Official/Agency/Law Enforcement
Unknown	1.89%	Employee
Family/ Friend of Witness/Victim	1.42%	
Disciplinary Counsel	1.42%	
Litigation Witness/Victim	1.42%	
Judge	1.42%	

**CASE TYPE:**

Criminal	35.85%	<b>Less than 1%</b>
General Civil	17.45%	Debt Collection/Foreclosure
Domestic	16.98%	Professional Malpractice
Probate/Estate Planning	9.91%	Contract Disputes
Real Estate	5.19%	Personal Injury /Property Damage
Not Court Related	3.77%	Other
Unknown	3.77%	
Landlord/Tenant	3.33%	
Post-Conviction Relief	1.42%	

**ALLEGED MISCONDUCT:**

Fairness/Bias/Prejudice	31.13%	Criminal Conduct	1.42%
Unknown	15.57%	Supervision	1.42%
Diligence	11.32%		
Other	9.43%	<b>Less than 1%</b>	
Temperament/Civility	8.49%	Maintaining Decorum	
Disqualification/Recusal	7.55%	Political Activity/Campaign	
Ex Parte Communication	6.13%	Supervision/Employee/Admin	
Competence	3.3%		
Improper Influence/Use of Position	2.83%		

## COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

### COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS:

Meetings of Investigative Panels	4
Formal Charges Filed	0
Formal Charges Hearings	0
Incapacity Proceedings	0
Meetings of Full Commission	0

### REQUESTS FOR DISMISSAL REVIEW:

Requests for Review by Complainant	1
Dismissal Affirmed by Panel	1
Case Remanded for Further Investigation	0
Dismissal Reviews Pending	0

### JUDGES BEING MONITORED:

New Monitor Files Opened	0
Judges Currently Monitored	0

## SUPREME COURT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

### DISCIPLINARY ORDERS\*:

Dismissal	0
Letter of Caution	0
Admonition	0
Public Reprimand	1
Definite Suspension	0
Removal from Office	0
Transfer to Incapacity Inactive	0
Interim Suspension	1

\*These figures represent the number of orders issued by the Supreme Court, not the number of complaints resolved. One disciplinary order might conclude multiple complaints.

### COMPLAINTS REFERRED TO SUPREME COURT:

Complaints resolved	1
Pending as of June 30, 2021	1