

William F. Ryan, Jr., Esq. Committee Chairperson

State of New York Supreme Court, Appellate Division Third Judicial Department

Attorney Grievance Committee

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July 20, 2018

Monica A. Duffy Chief Attorney

Elena R. Sassower Box 8101 White Plains, NY 10602

Re: Notice of Declination to Investigate a Complaint

Dear Ms. Sassower:

This will acknowledge receipt of your complaint received September 21, 2017, regarding various attorneys. This complaint is in addition to your complaint filed on October 17, 2016, your letter of reconsideration filed July 31, 2017 and determination declining reconsideration dated May 4, 2018. We apologize for the delay in responding.

Please be advised that the function of this Committee is to investigate acts of professional misconduct committed by attorneys. When a complaint is received, we review it to determine it if involves behavior which could constitute professional misconduct by the attorney. An attorney may be found to have engaged in professional misconduct if it can be proven that an ethical rule or law was violated. If there is a sufficient basis to conduct an investigation, the Committee will do so. However, pursuant to Part 1240. Rules for Attorney Disciplinary Matters, § 1240.7(d)(1)(i), there are instances where the Committee, after initial screening, may decline to investigate a complaint due to other reasons.

After careful review, it has been determined that the issues you raise are more appropriate for resolution by a court of law or through other available legal remedies in the first instance. If it is your feeling that your legal rights need protection, we recommend that you consult with an attorney of your own choosing. The Committee is not permitted to give you legal advice or act as your attorney.

Therefore, although we appreciate your efforts, we are unable to assist you. Please be advised that pursuant to Rule § 1240.7(e)(3) you may submit a written request for reconsideration of this determination by correspondence addressed to the Chairperson of the Committee and sent to the address listed above within thirty (30) days from the date of this letter. Your written request for reconsideration must be based on information and/or argument not previously presented to the Committee. If you seek reconsideration, please allow us up to ninety days for processing your request.

Very truly yours,

Chief Attorney
MAD/cma

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