

**Aggravating Circumstances**  
Adopted from “Standards for Imposing Lawyer Sanctions”

Aggravating circumstances are any considerations or factors that may justify an increase in the degree of discipline to be imposed.

Aggravating factors that may be considered include:

1. Prior discipline records
2. Multiple offenses
3. Obstruction of disciplinary proceedings by failing to follow rules or orders of the disciplinary agency
4. Submission of false evidence, false statements or other deceptive practices during the disciplinary process
5. Refusal to acknowledge wrongful nature of conduct
6. Vulnerability of the victim
7. Substantial experience in the field
8. Illegal conduct

**Mitigating Circumstances**  
Adopted from “Standards for Imposing Lawyer Sanctions”

Mitigating circumstances are any considerations or factors that may justify a decrease in the degree of discipline to be imposed.

Mitigating factors that may be considered include:

1. Absence of a prior discipline record
2. Personal or emotional problems
3. Timely good faith effort to rectify consequences of misconduct
4. Full and free disclosure or cooperative attitude toward disciplinary agency
5. Inexperience in the field
6. Physical disability
7. Mental disability as determined by medical evidence