

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, APPELLATE DIVISION,
FIRST DEPARTMENT

Matter of Lamon Darrell Bland

2026 NY Slip Op 01280 · No. 2024-06537 · Decided March 5, 2026

SUMMARY

The New York Appellate Division, First Department disbarred Lamon Darrell Bland for failing to respond to or appear for further investigatory or disciplinary proceedings within six months after his immediate suspension. The court ordered that his name be stricken from the roll of attorneys and directed him to comply with the rules governing disbarred attorneys.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Supreme Court of the State of New York, Appellate Division, First Department
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Per Curiam; Barbara R. Kapnick; Lizbeth González; Martin Shulman; John R. Higgitt; LlinÉt M. Rosado
JURISDICTION	Supreme Court of the State of New York, Appellate Division, First Department
DECIDED	March 5, 2026
DOCKET	2024-06537
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The Attorney Grievance Committee moved under 22 NYCRR 1240.9(b) to disbar respondent after he was immediately suspended under 22 NYCRR 1240.9(a)(1) and (3) and failed to respond to or appear for further investigatory or disciplinary proceedings within six months.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published opinion
PARTIES	Attorney Grievance Committee for the First Judicial Department v. Lamon Darrell Bland

TOPICS

appellate procedure

civil procedure

remedies

PRACTICE AREAS

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether an attorney immediately suspended under 22 NYCRR 1240.9(a)(1) and (3) must be disbarred under 22 NYCRR 1240.9(b) when six months have elapsed without the attorney responding to or appearing for further investigatory or disciplinary proceedings.
2. Whether Bland's communications with the Attorney Grievance Committee and his former landlord's possible withdrawal of the underlying complaint prevented disbarment.

HOLDINGS

1. When six months have elapsed after an immediate suspension under 22 NYCRR 1240.9(a)(1) and (3), and the respondent has neither responded to nor appeared for further investigatory or disciplinary proceedings, the respondent should be disbarred and the respondent's name stricken from the roll of attorneys.
2. A withdrawal of the complaint by the former landlord would not bind the Attorney Grievance Committee and would not eliminate Bland's obligation to cooperate or prevent disciplinary proceedings.

KEY QUOTATIONS

*"We find that, inasmuch as six months have elapsed since this Court's May 1, 2025 suspension order, and respondent has neither responded to nor appeared for further investigatory or disciplinary proceedings, respondent should be disbarred and his name stricken from the roll of attorneys in the State of New York, effective immediately" (*1)*

*"Any withdrawal of the complaint by his landlord would not be binding on the AGC." (*1)*

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Bland, a New York attorney, was immediately suspended after failing to comply with the Attorney Grievance Committee's investigative demands, failing to appear for an examination under oath, and failing to produce subpoenaed documents. Although he contacted the Committee about reinstatement and indicated that he was not interested in contesting the suspension, he did not resume cooperation, provide a reasonable explanation for noncompliance, or file the required affidavit of compliance. More than six months after the suspension order, he still had not responded to or appeared for further investigatory or disciplinary proceedings.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The First Department immediately suspended Bland on May 1, 2025, for failing to comply with investigative demands, appear for an examination under oath, and produce documents required by subpoena. After six months elapsed without his responding to or appearing for further proceedings, the Attorney Grievance Committee moved for disbarment. The court granted the motion, disbarred Bland, and struck his name from the roll of attorneys effective immediately.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Matter of Bland, 238 AD3d 98 [1st Dept 2025]
- Matter of Jenkins, 240 AD3d 18 [1st Dept 2025]
- Matter of Naccarato, 233 AD3d 35 [1st Dept 2024]

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