

How to File A Complaint Against A Judge

These are the instructions for filing a complaint against a judge with the Arkansas Judicial Discipline and Disability Commission. If you need more forms, you can copy the attached pages or call us at the number shown below.

1. You may use this form to file an official complaint against a judge. Complete the form by typing or printing all the information requested. Use separate forms if you want to file complaints against more than one judge.
2. Make sure you include a daytime telephone number or some other number where we can reach you to discuss your complaint. If your complaint arises out of a lawsuit, you must provide your case number and the names of the attorneys who participated in the case.
3. Please make sure that the complaint form is complete and accurate. You may use a separate letter or the statement of facts section to explain in your own words the circumstances that led to your complaint. Be as specific as possible in describing names, places, dates, and witnesses to the actions of the judge. List all the relevant events in chronological order. Use additional sheets, if necessary, and attach copies of any documents that support your statement. If you wish to include court documents, please do not send the originals.
4. Sign the complaint in the space provided. However, complaints may be anonymous. Make a copy of the complaint for your records.
5. Mail or fax the original complaint and the statement of facts to the Commission at the following address:

Arkansas Judicial Discipline and Disability Commission
323 Center Street Suite 1060
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201
(501) 682-1050 Fax (501) 682-1049

A complaint form may also be sent by e-mail to jddc@arkansas.gov.

The Commission does not accept complaints by telephone.

COMMISSION RECORDS ARE CONFIDENTIAL

By Arkansas Supreme Court rule and A.C.A. §16-10-404, except for final actions taken by the Commission or if the Commission finds there is probable cause requiring a formal disciplinary proceeding, all records, files, reports, and proceedings before this Commission are confidential. This confidentiality includes information written, recorded, or orally received or developed during the course of a Commission investigation. Under this rule, any information contained in this letter or received from you is to be strictly confidential. Any person who obtains any information about the Commission's work and violates this confidentiality requirement is subject to punishment for contempt of the Arkansas Supreme Court.

Contact the Arkansas Judicial Discipline and Disability Commission at (501) 682-1050
E-Mail: jddc@arkansas.gov

2) *Did you have a case before this judge?* _____yes_____no
If yes, is the case still pending? _____yes_____no

3) *When and where did the ethical misconduct occur?*

Date: _____ *Time:* _____ *Location:* _____

4) *If your complaint arose from a court case, please provide the following information:*

Case Name: _____ *Case Number:* _____

Plaintiff's information:

Defendant's information:

Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

Address _____

Daytime phone _____

Daytime phone _____

Attorney's information (Plaintiff):

Attorney's information (Defendant):

Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Phone _____

Additional Attorney's Information (use additional pages if necessary):

Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Phone _____

Represented _____

Represented _____

What type of case gives rise to this complaint? Please check one.

_____ *criminal*; _____ *small claims*; _____ *civil*; _____ *probate*;
_____ *domestic (family) relations*; _____ *other (specify)* _____

How are you interested in the case? Please check one.

___ *plaintiff / petitioner*; ___ *defendant/respondent*; ___ *unrelated to a case*;
___ *attorney for* _____; ___ *witness for* _____;
___ *family member of* _____; ___ *other (specify)* _____

5) *List documents you have attached that help support your complaint that the judge has engaged in misconduct or has a disability:*

6) *List documents that are not attached but will be needed by the Commission to support your complaint and may help in the Commission's investigation:*

7) *Identify, if possible, any other witnesses to the judge's conduct: (example: reporters, bailiffs, clerks, court reporters, law enforcement officers, or other attorneys, plaintiffs, defendants or witnesses that were present at the time).*

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

NOTE: STATE LAW PROVIDES THAT THE JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE & DISABILITY COMMISSION'S PROCEEDINGS ON THIS REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION ARE CONFIDENTIAL FILING A COMPLAINT IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR APPEAL AND HAS NO EFFECT ON YOUR LEGAL OR APPELLATE RIGHTS. THE APPELLATE PROCESS IS SUBJECT TO STRICT DEADLINES AND YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY OBTAIN LEGAL ADVICE ABOUT YOUR APPELLATE REMEDIES.

I request that the above complaint, supported by the Statement of Facts, be investigated by the Judicial Discipline & Disability Commission and that appropriate action be taken.

I hereby swear or affirm that the above information is true and correct.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____