

## **Instructions for filing a Verified Complaint with the Commission on Judicial Tenure and Discipline**

The Commission accepts a complaint if it is made against any justice or judge of the Supreme, Superior, Family, District Court, Workers' Compensation Court, Traffic Tribunal, or masters appointed pursuant to §§8-2-11.1, 8-2-39, 8-8-8.1, 8-10-3, 8-10-3.1 and/or 8-10-3.2 and any judge of a probate court appointed or elected by any municipality of the State of Rhode Island.

The complaint shall contain a statement of facts, circumstances or other matter upon which the complaining party relies for his or her charge that a member of the judiciary:

- a. has engaged in a violation of the **Canons of Judicial Ethics** or the **Code of Judicial Conduct**<sup>1</sup> (specify which Canon or Code has been violated) or
- b. has willfully and persistently failed to perform his or her duties, or
- c. suffers from a disabling addiction to alcoholic beverages, drugs or narcotics, or
- d. has engaged in conduct that brings his or her judicial office into serious disrepute; or
- e. that the judge has a physical or mental disability that seriously interferes and will continue to interfere with the performance of the judge's duties.

The Commission has no power to decide whether a judge has decided a case incorrectly or unfairly nor may the Commission change a decision made by a judge.

### **Verification**

The Statement of Facts **must be signed by the complainant before a notary public**. If additional pages have been added, the number of pages should be noted in the appropriate box in the Verification section.

### **Filing**

A complaint shall be filed with the Commission by sending it certified mail, return receipt requested to the Commission on Judicial Tenure and Discipline. The address appears on the face page of the complaint form. The complaint should be typed or printed.

If you have any questions, please call the Commission office for further assistance:

**(401) 222-1188**

**Business hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.  
Accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request.**

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<sup>1</sup> Canons of Judicial Ethics and Code of Judicial Conduct can be found in the General Laws of Rhode Island 1956, **COURT RULES**, Annotated 2003, Article VI, Rule 1, Code of Judicial Conduct.

## Commission on Judicial Tenure and Discipline Complaint Form

Return **Notarized** form by **Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested** to:

**Commission on Judicial Tenure and Discipline  
Licht Judicial Complex  
250 Benefit Street, Room 604  
Providence, RI 02903**

(Please type or print)

1. Date of filing \_\_\_\_\_

2. Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

3. Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Judge against whom you wish to file a complaint:

Judge's full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Court \_\_\_\_\_

5. If this complaint is prepared by an attorney, or if it is being submitted upon the advice of an attorney, please state his or her name and address:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

6. Attach as many sheets as necessary to accurately state your complaint – noting the number of pages filed in the Verification section.

<i>For Commission use only:</i>		
File No. _____		
Date received _____	Mailed to judge _____	Mailed to members _____

**Statement of Facts**

**Concerning Judge** \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please type or print)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Complainant's signature**

**VERIFICATION**

\_\_\_\_\_ County

This page and the additional \_\_\_\_\_ page(s) were subscribed and sworn to before me by the above-named this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Notary Public**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Please print Notary's name**