

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILING A COMPLAINT WITH
THE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL FITNESS AND DISABILITY**

These instructions explain how to file a complaint with the Commission on Judicial Fitness and Disability using the attached form. If additional forms are needed, you can copy this form or obtain more from the Commission office.

1. Before filing a complaint against a judge, you should read the Code of Judicial Conduct carefully. The Code will give you a good idea of the Commission's jurisdiction and authority. Please note that the Commission does not have the authority to review a judge's decision and cannot take action against a judge who acts in good faith in making findings of fact or applying the law. The Commission does not have jurisdiction over arbitrators, mediators, federal court judges, municipal court judges, or administrative law judges.
2. If your complaint falls within the Commission's jurisdiction, you may use the attached form to file an official complaint against a judge. Complete the form by typing or printing all of the information requested on both pages. Use separate forms if you wish to file a complaint against more than one judge.
3. Make sure that the information in the general allegations section is complete and accurate. Explain the circumstances that led to your complaint in the statement of facts section. Be as specific as possible in describing dates, places, and witnesses to the actions of the judge. List all of the relevant events in chronological order. You may use additional sheets, if necessary. Please attach evidence supporting your statements, including, for example, a tape recording or transcript of the hearing or trial involved in your complaint.
4. Sign the complaint in the space provided and make a copy of the complaint for your records.
5. Send the original complaint, including a tape recording or transcript, to the Commission at the address shown below. Please call or e-mail if you have any questions about these procedures.

**NOTE: PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR COMPLAINT BY
REGISTERED OR CERTIFIED MAIL.**

Commission on Judicial Fitness and Disability
P.O. Box 1130
Beaverton, OR 97075-1130
503.626.6776

ARE COMMISSION RECORDS CONFIDENTIAL?

Yes. Oregon Revised Statutes 1.440 provides for the confidentiality of Commission files except when formal charges are filed against a judge. The Commission may request a waiver of confidentiality from you in order to question the judge concerning the complaint.

REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION – COMPLAINT AGAINST A JUDGE

TO THE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL FITNESS AND DISABILITY:

I, the undersigned complainant, believe that Judge _____
of the (check one) justice court; small claims court; circuit court; court of appeals; or
supreme court, located in the city of _____ and county of _
_____, Oregon, has committed misconduct.

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

I also allege that the judge's misconduct involved one or more of the following
(check all that apply):

- The judge's plea of guilty or no contest or a finding of guilty to a crime punishable as a felony under Oregon or federal law or of any other crime that involves moral turpitude under such law.
- A disability that seriously interferes with the performance of judicial duties that is, or is likely to become, permanent.
- Willful misconduct in office or persistent failure to perform judicial duties.
- Habitual intemperance (addiction to alcohol or drugs).
- Conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice that brings the judicial office into disrepute.
- A violation of the Oregon Code of Judicial Conduct (see attached code).
- Other.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone:() _____

Represented: _____

3. List documents that help support your information that the judge has engaged in misconduct or has a disability, noting which ones you have attached:

4. Identify, if you can, any other witnesses to the conduct of the judge:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone:() _____ () _____

5. Specify below the details of what the judge did that you think constitutes misconduct or indicates disability (please type or print legibly; attach additional paper if necessary).
