

BOARD OF OVERSEERS OF THE BAR

Established by the Maine Supreme Judicial Court

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Augusta, ME 04332-0527

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Grievance Information and Instructions – Please Read Carefully

The office of the Board of Overseers of the Bar investigates allegations of ethical misconduct against attorneys. If you believe that an attorney has acted in an unethical manner or otherwise acted improperly, please fill out, as completely as possible, the grievance form below and return it to the Board's office. Be sure to include copies of any documents, correspondence, agreements, or other papers that are relevant and material to your complaint. Your grievance complaint will be reviewed to determine whether the conduct you describe, if proven true, would violate any ethical rules. Please be aware that a copy of this complaint, and any attachments, will be provided to the attorney against whom it is filed.

The Board scans all complaints and associated attachments into its database. Please do not bind, staple, or insert tabbed dividers into any documents you submit to the Board. If you wish to identify certain documents, please insert a page before that document with an explanatory note (do not use post-it notes). Also, please do not use color-coding or highlight for reference purposes as the Board scans its documents in a black and white format. Lastly, because we do not retain paper files, please do not submit any original documents.

The Board does not provide copies of the Maine Rules of Professional Conduct or the Maine Bar Rules. You may download those rules on the Board's website at: <http://www.mebaroverseers.org>.

Attorney Grievance Complaint Form

Part A: Complainant Information

Your Name:	_____	_____	_____
	<i>First</i>	<i>Middle Initial</i>	<i>Last</i>
Your Address:	_____		
	<i>Street</i>		
	_____		<i>Phone # ()</i>
	<i>Mailing Address</i>		<i>Alternate Phone # ()</i>
	_____	_____	_____
	<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Zip</i>

	<i>Email Address</i>		
	_____	_____	
	<i>Date of Birth</i>	<i>Last 4 Digits of SSN</i>	
	Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female		

Part B: Respondent Information

Attorney
Name:

First

Middle Initial

Last

Attorney
Address:

Street

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip

Phone ()

Email Address

Note: Grievance complaints may not be brought in the name of a law firm. You must specifically name the attorney about whom you are complaining. A separate grievance form must be completed for each such attorney.

Part C: Please answer the following questions:

1. In regards to this complaint, you are the:
 Client (Attorney Hired) Client (Attorney Appointed) Opposing Party Opposing Attorney
 Judicial Officer Other _____
Please explain

Please understand that if the Respondent attorney is (or was) your personal attorney, the Maine Rules of Professional Conduct provide that by filing this complaint, you will hereby expressly waive your attorney-client privilege concerning that attorney, who will then be authorized and allowed to reveal to the Board of Overseers of the Bar any information deemed relevant from that representation..

2. Have you filed a complaint or legal action about this matter anywhere else? No Yes
If yes, please state where, the docket number and the status or outcome. _____

3. Does your complaint also involve a fee dispute with your attorney? No Yes
If yes, you should complete a Petition for Arbitration of Fee Dispute. The petition may be found on the Board's website at <http://www.mebaroverseers.org>.

4. Your complaint concerns what kind of legal matter, i.e. divorce, probate, real estate, criminal, etc.?

5. If your grievance involves a lawsuit, please answer the following, if known:

a. Name of court and title of suit. _____

b. Docket number and date suit was filed. _____

c. If you are not a party to this suit, what is your connection to it? _____

Please provide copies of relevant court documents.

6. Do you believe that the respondent attorney has an impairment such as depression, substance abuse or age related issues? No Yes
*If yes, please provide specifics regarding your **personal** observations of the attorney's behavior.*

