

Instructions for Filing a Complaint with the Legislative Ethics Committee

Revised 2020

Manner of Filing. Complaints must be made in writing. Individuals are strongly encouraged to use the LEC's official complaint form.

No Anonymous Complaints. You must include your name, address, and county of voter registration. The LEC requests that you include a telephone number, in the event the LEC has questions about the complaint documents.

Signed & Sworn. The complaint must be ***signed and notarized***.

Person Against Whom You are Filing a Complaint. You must include the name of the sitting legislator against whom you are filing a complaint. If the complaint involves multiple sitting legislators, a separate complaint document must be submitted for each sitting legislator against whom allegations are raised.

Nature of the Allegation. You must state the nature of your complaint, including any relevant supporting facts indicating the alleged violation of the State Government Ethics Act (Chapter 138A of the General Statutes) or the Legislative Ethics Act (Article 14 of Chapter 120 of the General Statutes) has occurred.

- Examples of matters covered by the State Government Ethics Act include:
 - Use of public position for private gain.
 - Conflict of interest while taking legislative action.
 - Accepting a prohibited gift.
- Examples of matters covered by the Legislative Ethics Act include:
 - Disclosure of confidential information.
 - Bribery.
 - Unethical personnel-related actions.
 - A specific violation of the criminal law by a legislator while acting in the legislator's official capacity as a participant in the lawmaking process.
 - A violation of an Ethical Principle and Guideline adopted by the LEC.
 - A violation of a formal written advisory opinion adopted by the LEC.

Timeframe of the Allegation. You must include the timeframe of the alleged violation.

Personal Knowledge of the Allegation. The contents of the complaint must be within your own knowledge **or** you must provide the basis upon which you believe the allegations to be true.

Submission. You must submit your signed and sworn ***original*** complaint to:

**Cochairs, Legislative Ethics Committee c/o Legislative Analysis Division
Room 545, Legislative Office Building
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603-5925.**

Questions regarding filing a complaint should be directed to: Brad Krehely, Staff Attorney, Legislative Ethics Committee, 919-733-2578.

All complaints received by the Legislative Ethics Committee are confidential and may not be disclosed to third parties. However, the legislator against whom a complaint is filed is provided a copy of the complaint.