



**JUDICIAL STANDARDS COMMISSION  
OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA**

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**IMPORTANT INFORMATION CONCERNING THE  
JUDICIAL STANDARDS COMMISSION**

The purpose of this document is to explain the functions and operations of the Judicial Standards Commission so that you have a better understanding of what the Commission can and cannot do, with respect to grievances filed against judges in the state of Montana.

Under the rules of this Commission, grievances against judges must be verified under oath. To simplify the filing of a grievance, I am enclosing a grievance form for you to fill out, sign and have notarized. Your grievance against the judge must be clearly stated and written. After it has been completed and notarized, please return the original to me at the address shown on the second page of the Grievance form.

If the Commission finds an investigation is necessary, we will notify you. If the Commission finds there is misconduct on the part of a judge, a report and recommendation of discipline will be made to the Supreme Court of the State of Montana for a final decision.

The Commission wishes to point out that its duty consists of investigating grievances of misconduct or unethical conduct against judges in the State of Montana. The Judicial Standards Commission does not have appellate jurisdiction. If you are unhappy with a decision that was rendered by a City Court, Justice Court, Municipal Court, or a District Court, your remedy is by appeal to a higher court.

  
Shelly Smith, Executive Secretary  
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