

# Virginia Indigent Defense Commission

## Standards of Practice of Indigent Defense Counsel Complaint Form

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Under Code of Virginia, §19.2-163.01(4), the VIDC is responsible for establishing the official standards of practice for court-appointed counsel and public defenders to follow in representing their clients, and guidelines for the removal of an attorney from the official list of those qualified to receive court appointments.

A finding of a violation of the Standards of Practice will not affect the outcome of your case but may result in the removal of the attorney from the list of certified attorneys qualified to accept court appointments in criminal indigent cases. If you are seeking other outcomes with regards to your case, you may need to seek other remedies.

NOTE: Copy of all complaints may be provided to the attorney.

**A complaint will be dismissed without further review unless it meets all of the following filing requirements:**

1. Must be in writing and provided on this form;
2. Complainant cannot be anonymous;
3. Filed within twelve months of the conclusion of representation;
4. Reference a specific case;
5. Involve a court-appointed attorney or public defender in an indigent defense case;
6. Allege violation(s) of specific Standards of Practice; and
7. Be inherently credible.

**Complainant Information:**

YOUR

NAME:

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Last

ADDRESS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip Code

( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number at which you can be best reached Email Address

Are you the person that was represented by the court-appointed lawyer or public defender?  yes  no

If no, please provide the following information of the client:

NAME:

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Last

ADDRESS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip Code

( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number at which you can be best reached Email Address

Have you filed a bar complaint about this matter?  yes  no

If yes, state the outcome if available: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you read the brochure describing the complaint process?  yes  no

