Professions/Occupations/Entities Regulated

- Acupuncturists
- Adult Use Cannabis Dispensaries
- Architects
- Athlete Agents
- Athletic Trainers
- Audiologists
- Barbers
- Barber and Cosmetology Salons/Shops
- Canine Handlers
- Cemeteries/Cemetery Managers
- Cemetery Oversight
- Chiropractors
- Collection Agencies
- Controlled Substance Licenses
- Cosmetologists
- Dentists & Dental Hygienists
- Detection of Deception Examiners
- Dietitian Nutritionists
- Electrologists
- Environmental Health Practitioners
- Estheticians
- Fingerprint Vendor Agencies
- Firearm Instructors
- Funeral Directors & Embalmers
- Geologists
- Genetic Counselors
- Hair Braiders
- Home Medical Equipment & Service Provider
- Humane Euthanasian Technicians & Agencies
- Interior Designers/Registered Interior Designers
- Landscape Architects
- Land Surveyors
- Limited Liability Companies
- Locksmiths & Agencies
- Mail Order Ophthalmic Providers
- Marriage & Family Therapists
- Massage Therapists
- Medical Cannabis Dispensaries
- Medical Corporations
- Nail Technicians
- Naprapaths
- Nurses (LPN, RN, APN, and APRN)
- Nursing Home Administrators
- Occupational Therapists & Occupational Assts.
- Optometrists
- Orthotists, Prosthetists, and Pedorthists
- Permanent Employee Registration Card
- Perfusionists
- Pharmacists, Pharmacies, & Pharmacy Technicians
- Physical Therapists
- Physicians & Surgeons
- Physician Assistants
- Podiatric Physicians
- Private Alarm Contractors & Agencies
- Private Detectives & Agencies
- Private Security Contractors & Agencies
- Professional Boxing & Mixed Martial Arts
- Professional Counselors (Licensed & Licensed Clinical)
- Professional Engineers
- Professional Service Corporations
- Psychologists (Clinical & Prescribing)
- Public Accountants
- Respiratory Care Practitioners
- Roofing Contractors
- Shorthand Reporters
- Sex Offender Evaluators
- Social Workers (Licensed & Licensed Clinical)
- Speech-Language Pathologists & Assts.
- Structural Engineers
- Surgical Assistants
- Surgical Technologists
- Veterinarians & Certified Veterinary Technicians
- Wholesale Drug Distributors

Filing a Complaint Against a Licensee

Enforcement, Complaints, and Investigations
555 West Monroe Street - Suite 500
Chicago, Illinois 60661
General Assistance: 1-888-473-4858
www.idfpr.com
TTY Line: 1-866-325-4949

Disclaimer: This document is for informational purposes only and is not legal advice. This document does not change any requirement of state or federal law. Please consult with your own attorney for legal advice.

Printed by the Authority of the State of Illinois
OCI 22-0385 0 copies 10-21
How to File a Complaint Against a Licensee

If you wish to file a complaint against any individual or entity regulated by the Division of Professional Regulation, you may either use the Department’s online complaint portal or by completing the DPR Complaint Intake Report and mailing it to the Division’s Complaint Intake Unit in our Chicago office.

When submitting a written complaint, please be as detailed as possible. Include your name, address, and telephone number so the Division can contact you if necessary. All complaints will be promptly forwarded to a Division investigator.

Anonymous Complaints

It is especially important to be as detailed as possible when submitting a complaint against a licensee if you decide to do so anonymously. While anonymous complaints receive the same amount of consideration as any other complaint, successful investigations and prosecutions are more difficult since most cases rely upon an identifiable complainant or witness.

Updates of Case Progress

A complainant receives an acknowledgment letter indicating the complaint was received and provides a case number the complainant must refer to in any subsequent correspondence or telephone calls. Confidentiality laws may prevent the Department from providing updates while the proceeding is pending or from disclosing the outcome of a case if non-disciplinary in nature.

Unlicensed Practice and Criminal Violations

Complaints of unlicensed practice are investigated to the extent of any other complaint. The Director of the Division of Professional Regulation may issue a cease and desist order, and may also order civil penalties against the individual who is practicing without a license. Unlicensed practice cases can, in some instances, be forwarded to the Illinois Attorney General or a county state’s attorney for criminal prosecution.

In addition, the Division will refer cases that appear to involve criminal activities to the proper law enforcement agency. Criminal violations that may be revealed in complaints include unlicensed practice of various professions, theft, forgery, unlawful use of weapons, diversion of controlled substances for illegal use, and other related offenses.

Investigation and Prosecution

When a complaint is received from the public, it is promptly assigned to a Division investigator. The investigator is responsible for determining if there has been a potential violation of a licensing law, or Division rules and regulations. After developing the facts in a case where there appears to be a violation, the investigator refers the case to a prosecuting attorney. However, if there is insufficient evidence to indicate a violation of the particular licensing statute, the investigative file is normally closed.

Cases referred to a prosecuting attorney may be more fully investigated with a focus toward filing formal administrative charges against the licensee for specific violations. If the prosecutor concludes that the case has been thoroughly investigated and there is sufficient evidence supporting the complaint, a formal complaint is filed. Depending upon the circumstances of the case, the Division and the licensee may enter into a negotiated agreement regarding the level of discipline to be imposed upon the licensee. The agreement may also need to be approved by a member of the respective professional board or committee. The agreement would then be presented to the Director of the Division for consideration and approval.

In instances where an agreement cannot be reached, a formal disciplinary hearing is necessary. The hearing is held before an administrative law judge and at least one member of the respective professional board or committee. The hearing is an administrative law proceeding conducted pursuant to the Illinois Civil Administrative Code and other relevant statutes and rules.

After the hearing, the administrative law judge presents the appropriate board or committee with a report detailing any violations of the law. The board or committee will then issue its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the Director for a final decision.

Disciplinary action may include revocation, suspension, probation, or reprimand of a license. The license may also be ordered to remain in good standing. In addition, Illinois law also allows for the imposition of fines for any of the professions regulated by the Division.

Following a final decision by the Director, the licensee has 35 days to make an appeal in circuit court under the Illinois Administrative Review Act. Formal disciplinary action against a licensee may be viewed on the Department’s License Look-up.