

# Making a complaint about a judicial officer

## What is the JCC?

The Judicial Conduct Commissioner is an independent statutory officer appointed under the *Judicial Conduct Commissioner Act 2015* (JCC Act).

South Australia's first Judicial Conduct Commissioner is the Honourable Bruce Lander QC.

*"Members of the judiciary are expected to conduct themselves professionally. In circumstances where they do not meet acceptable professional standards, there is an independent person who can address that conduct."*

THE HON.  
BRUCE LANDER QC  
JUDICIAL CONDUCT  
COMMISSIONER

## What does the Judicial Conduct Commissioner do?

The Commissioner receives and deals with complaints made about the conduct of serving judges, magistrates and other judicial officers.

*"This is not about examining the decisions of judges and magistrates, this is about professional conduct."*

THE HON.  
BRUCE LANDER QC  
JUDICIAL CONDUCT  
COMMISSIONER

## What the Commissioner can do:

- » Receive and deal with complaints about the conduct of serving judicial officers in the South Australian legal system
- » Conduct a preliminary examination of a complaint
- » Obtain relevant court documents and require a person to provide information or documents
- » Refer a complaint to the Office for Public Integrity or a jurisdictional head
- » Recommend the Attorney-General appoint a judicial conduct panel
- » Make a report to Parliament about the potential removal of a judicial officer
- » Dismiss a complaint or take no further action

## What the Commissioner cannot do:

- » Deal with complaints about Federal judicial officers or judicial officers of other States or Territories
- » Deal with complaints about former judicial officers
- » Investigate a complaint
- » Conduct hearings
- » Issue or execute search warrants
- » Challenge or question the legality or correctness of any instruction, direction, order, judgment, or other decision given or made by a judicial officer in relation to any legal proceedings
- » Appoint or give directions to a judicial conduct panel
- » Punish, discipline, reprimand or remove judicial officers

*“I’m very pleased to have been appointed to this position. I believe it is important that the community have an independent avenue for making complaints about judicial officers.”*

THE HON.  
BRUCE LANDER QC  
JUDICIAL CONDUCT  
COMMISSIONER

☎ Enquiries  
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📶 [www.jcc.sa.gov.au](http://www.jcc.sa.gov.au)  
🏠 c/o The Office For  
Public Integrity  
Level 1, 55 Currie St.  
✉ GPO Box 11066  
Adelaide SA 5000



*The information contained in this document is for general information only and does not constitute legal advice.*

## Who can make a complaint?

With the exception of a person who has been declared a vexatious litigant, anyone can make a complaint about the conduct of a serving judicial officer.

## How to make a complaint

All complaints must be made in writing.

The easiest way to make a complaint is to complete the online complaint form at [www.jcc.sa.gov.au](http://www.jcc.sa.gov.au).

If you cannot use the online complaint form, please contact us and ask for a complaint form to be sent to you.

## What happens next?

The Commissioner will conduct a preliminary examination of your complaint before deciding how the complaint will be dealt with.

## Interpreting and Translating Services

For interpreting and translating services, contact the Government of South Australia’s Interpreting and Translating Centre on 1800 280 203.

This interpreting service is available at no cost to you.

## National Relay Service

If you are deaf, or have a hearing impairment or speech impairment, you can contact us through the National Relay Service:

» Teletypewriter (TTY) users:

Phone 1300 555 677 and ask for 08 8207 8311

» Speak and listen users:

Phone 1300 555 727 and ask for 08 8207 8311

» Internet relay users:

Connect to the national relay service website and ask for 08 8207 8311