

**STATE OF NEW YORK
SUPREME COURT, APPELLATE DIVISION
ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE
THIRD JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT**

COMPLAINT FORM

Date: February 27, 2025

COMPLAINANT INFORMATION:

Name: Elena Ruth Sassower/Director – Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
Address: Box 8101, White Plains, New York 10602
Telephone: 914-421-1200
Cell: 646-220-7987
Email: elena@judgewatch.org

ATTORNEY COMPLAINED OF:

Name: **R. Nadine Fontaine, Esq.**
Office Address: c/o [NYS Commission on Legislative, Judicial & Executive Compensation](#)
64 Beaver Street, Box 454, New York, New York 10004
Telephone: ?
Email: nyscompensation@gmail.com

CONTACT WITH OTHER AGENCIES:

Have you filed a complaint with any other agency, such as a Bar Association or District Attorney's Office? If yes, state the name of the agency:

- (1) New York State Attorney General Letitia James' Public Integrity Bureau;
- (2) New York State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli's Division of Investigations & Inspector General;
- (3) New York State Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government (COELIG);
- (4) New York State Attorney Grievance Committees of the Appellate Division First, Second, Third, and Fourth Departments (complaints against the other five attorney-members of the Commission on Legislative, Judicial & Executive Compensation);
- (5) New York State Inspector General Lucy Lang;

(6) Albany County District Attorney Lee Kindlon.

What action was taken by the agency?

No response from the first two, to which complaints were filed on February 5, 2025 and February 6, 2025, respectively. The complaints to the other agencies and officers are being filed today.

COURT ACTION TAKEN BY YOU AGAINST THE ATTORNEY:

Have you taken any civil or criminal action against the attorney?

CJA v. Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive Compensation, et al., Albany County Supreme Court ([#902654-24](#)), at the New York Court of Appeals on a direct appeal of right ([APL-2024-149](#), [APL-2024-175](#)).

ALLEGATIONS:

This is a conflict-of-interest/corruption complaint against attorney R. Nadine Fontaine (#2703742/Second Dept. 1995), one of seven members of the New York State Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive Compensation, for her knowing and deliberate violations of, *inter alia*:

- [Public Officers Law §74](#) “Code of Ethics”;
- [Penal Law §175.35](#): “Offering a false instrument for filing in the first degree”;
- [Penal Law §195](#): “Official misconduct”;
- [Penal Law §105.15](#): “Conspiracy in the second degree”;
- [Penal Law §20.00](#): “Criminal liability for conduct of another”;
- [Penal Law Article 496: “PUBLIC TRUST ACT”](#) –
 - [§496.06](#): “Public corruption”;
 - [§496.05](#): “Corrupting the government in the first degree”.

These constitute violations of [New York’s Rules of Professional Conduct](#) and, specifically, Rule 8.4 “Misconduct” and Rule 8.3 “Reporting Professional Misconduct”, over which the Appellate Division Attorney Grievance Committees have jurisdiction.

The facts and evidence substantiating this complaint are furnished by CJA’s February 3, 2025 Opposition Report to the Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive Compensation’s misnomered November 14, 2024 “Final Report on Legislative and Executive Compensation”. The Opposition Report is filled with live hyperlinks to facilitate verification and, therefore, is best reviewed by [pdf, here linked](#).

Eleng R. Nassif

Signature

February 27, 2025

Date

The foregoing complaint, with its February 3, 2025 Opposition Report, is affirmed as true under penalties of perjury, pursuant to CPLR §2106.