



**TEXAS STATE BOARD OF PODIATRIC MEDICAL EXAMINERS
COMPLAINT FORM**

Date: _____

It is very important that you fill out this form completely. Please type or neatly print in black or blue ink. If we are unable to read your complaint, we will not be able to help you.

Mail To:
TEXAS STATE BOARD OF PODIATRIC MEDICAL EXAMINERS
INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION
P.O. Box 12216
Austin, Texas 78711-2216

1. COMPLAINANT'S FULL NAME:	COMPLAINANT'S ADDRESS (Street):		
	(City, State, Zip):		
HOME TELEPHONE #: () -	COMPLAINANT'S DATE OF BIRTH (mm/dd/yyyy):		
WORK TELEPHONE #: () -			
2. PODIATRIST INVOLVED:			
ADDRESS:	CITY, STATE, ZIP:		
OFFICE TELEPHONE #: () -			
3. (Other Podiatry/Medical Opinions Received):			
NAME:	ADDRESS:	TELEPHONE #: () -	
(Other Podiatry/Medical Opinions Received):	NAME:	ADDRESS:	TELEPHONE #: () -
4. Nature of Complaint(s): Clearly state the nature of your complaint and enclose copies of any records, or reports from a second podiatrist (DPM) or physician (MD/DO) which will support your statement. COMPLAINT FORM MUST BE SIGNED & DATED. (Attached Additional Pages if Necessary.)			

THE CITIZEN COMPLAINT PROCESS

[<http://www.foot.state.tx.us/complaint.htm>]

WHO MAY FILE A COMPLAINT?

Anyone may file a complaint with the Texas State Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners against a podiatrist.

HOW DO I FILE A COMPLAINT?

A complaint must be submitted in writing; signed/dated. You may use this form for that purpose.

HOW ARE COMPLAINTS INVESTIGATED?

Trained professionals investigate the complaints. An investigator may contact you for additional information, to secure your written statement, or for written permission to obtain copies of your medical records if necessary/warranted.

A complaint involving physician competency may require a lengthy investigation by medical experts.

All investigative material (including medical records, investigator's reports, and reviews by board consultants) become part of the Board's confidential investigative files.

WILL I BE TOLD THE STATUS OF MY COMPLAINT

You will receive a letter acknowledging receipt of your complaint.

If your complaint is within the Board's jurisdiction, we will reasonably notify you of the status of your complaint, unless such notice would jeopardize an investigation, until final action is taken.

Should your complaint be outside the Board's jurisdiction, we will notify you.

WHAT COMPLAINTS DO NOT FALL WITHIN THE BOARD'S JURISDICTION?

Rudeness, records, fee/billing complaints, professional disputes/conflicts, etc. and the like. These issues can be directed to the state Podiatric Society or Trade Association (i.e. Texas Podiatric Medical Association; 512-494-1123; <http://www.txpma.org>).

Complaints against doctors who are not D.P.M.s and complaints regarding other health care providers or hospitals. Such complaints should be directed to the appropriate state licensing agency: <http://www.texas.gov>

Complaints regarding the unlicensed practice of podiatry should be referred to your local police department, as this activity is a criminal misdemeanor.

WHAT COMPLAINTS ARE WITHIN THE BOARD'S JURISDICTION?

The most frequent types of consumer complaints are:

Non-therapeutic prescribing/administering of a drug or treatment;

Professional incompetency;

Inability to practice podiatry by reason of mental or physical impairment (alcohol or chemical abuse, mental or physical condition);

Unprofessional conduct which may endanger the public.

WHAT ACTION CAN THE BOARD TAKE?

If we lack sufficient evidence of a violation of the Podiatry Practice Act, then we will close the investigation.

If the investigation establishes that a podiatrist violated the Podiatry Practice Act, the Board may order corrective procedures or disciplinary action ranging from a written reprimand to the most severe measure, revocation of license.