

WASHINGTON NEWS COUNCIL Complaint Form

COMPLAINANT INFORMATION

RECEIVED (WNC USE): _____

Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (Day) _____ (Evening) _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____

You are / represent:

_____ Private Individual _____ Private Organization _____ Private Company

_____ Public Official _____ Public Organization _____ Public Figure

_____ Political Candidate _____ Government Agency _____ Other (Explain)

MEDIA INFORMATION

Media Name: _____

Address: _____

Media Category:

_____ Newspaper: (Circle one) Daily Weekly Community College

_____ Television Station _____ Radio Station _____ Wire Service

_____ Online News Service _____ Other (Explain) _____

Your Complaint Concerns:

_____ News Story _____ News Analysis _____ Special Report

_____ Column _____ Editorial _____ Letter to the Editor

_____ Other (Explain) _____

Dates of Media Coverage: _____

(Please enclose photocopies or video / audio tapes if available.)

SPECIFICS OF COMPLAINT

Was story, in whole or in part, factually incorrect? _____ Yes _____ No

(If yes, please detail specific inaccuracies on a separate sheet.)

Was story: _____ incomplete _____ misleading _____ sensationalized _____ biased

_____ inflammatory _____ racist/sexist _____ otherwise stereotyped _____ unfair

_____ other problem (Explain) _____

Were there ethical lapses by the media? (Check all that apply.)

_____ Did story wrongly damage your or your group's reputation?

_____ Was there a conflict of interest for reporter or media outlet?

_____ Did reporter misrepresent him / herself in any way?

_____ Was your confidentiality betrayed by any reporter or editor?

_____ Did any reporter or editor break a promise to you?

_____ Did media outlet invade your privacy?

_____ Did media outlet fail to contact you for a story about you?

_____ Did media outlet fail to include balancing facts or information?

_____ Was a misleading impression created by layout, graphics, etc.?

_____ Did media outlet deny access to you to respond to the story?

_____ Other lapses (Please explain): _____

Have you discussed complaint with media outlet? _____ Yes _____ No

If so, with whom? (Name, title, date) _____

What was the result? _____

Please summarize your complaint in narrative form, including specific inaccuracies or statements to which you object. (Attach separate sheet if necessary.) _____

