

2026 UPL Complaints

Received: 38

Referred: 24

UPL #	Date of Complaint	Complainant	Respondent	UPL Complaint	Brief Summary	Referred
25-27	10/2/2025	Lawyer	Out-of-state lawyer	Legal advice, legal documents, legal services	Respondent sent legal documents to Complainant's client but is not authorized to practice law in Washington	Yes
25-28	10/10/2025	Individual	Individual	legal advice, legal documents	The Complainant alleges that the Respondent, who is the Complainant's husband's girlfriend, has been completing legal paperwork and attending court proceedings related to a Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO), as well as preparing dissolution of marriage documents. The complainant further states that a judge has previously warned the respondent not to assist with legal documentation.	No
25-29	10/13/2025	Individual	Individual	legal documents, legal services	Complainant's client paid Respondent \$2600 to assist with immigration paperwork. Respondent is not an lawyer, and the forms that were filed were incorrect. The money was never returned.	Yes
25-30	10/17/2025	Individual	Individual	legal advice, legal documents, legal rights, legal services	Respondent is not a licensed lawyer and Complainant alleges that Respondent is filing documents with the court and even attempted to appear in court.	Yes
25-31	10/20/2025	Individual	Paralegal	Legal advice, legal documents, legal rights	Complainant worked with Respondent at a law firm. Complainant alleges that Respondent was given duties and responsibilities that constituted the practice of law with no lawyer oversight. Respondent was in charge of a team of lawyers.	Yes
25-32	10/22/2025	Individual	Individual	legal advice, legal documents	Complainant alleges that Respondent claimed to be a licensed lawyer from New York and offered legal assistance during two court cases. Complainant paid Respondent \$1,000. Respondent allegedly drafted and filed legal documents. Respondent is not licensed in WA	Yes

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25-33	10/31/2025	Individual	Lawyer	legal advice, legal documents	Complainant alleges that Respondent was not authorized to practice law but was doing so anyway. Respondent was a Rule 9 Legal Intern and is now a licensed lawyer.	No
25-35	11/12/2025	Lawyer	Paralegal	legal advice, legal documents, negotiated legal rights, provided legal services	Complainant alleges Respondent is a paralegal and is representing individuals for their UM claims. Respondent has signed the letter of representation and is not working with an lawyer	Yes
25-36	11/15/2025	Individual	Out-of-state lawyer	legal advice, legal documents, appeared in court, legal rights, legal services	Respondent is Complainant's ex-husband's girlfriend. Complainant alleges Respondent is giving the ex-husband legal advice, as well as assisting with and filing paperwork on his behalf.	No
25-37	11/27/2025	Individual	Individual	legal documents, appeared in court, legal rights	Complainant was living with a friend and was asked to move out but refused. Respondent has Power of Lawyer over the friend and is assisting with removing Complainant.	No
25-38	11/30/2025	Individual	Individual	legal advice, legal documents, legal rights, legal services	This complaint is related to 25-38. Complainant is alleging that Respondent sued Bank of America on behalf of Complainant's roommate/Respondent's client and pocketed the money. Complainant is also alleging that Respondent is acting against Complainant's roommates best interests.	No
25-39	12/2/2025	Individual	Individual	legal advice, legal documents, legal rights	Complainant is involved in a lawsuit and acting pro se. Respondent works for the court and issues documents to the Complainant.	No
25-40	12/15/2025	Individual	Out-of-state lawyer	Legal advice, legal documents, legal services	Complainant's lawyer sent a cease and desist to Respondent's wife. Respondent responded to the cease and desist but made it clear he was acting as a husband and not an lawyer.	No
25-41	12/15/2025	Lawyer	Corporation	legal advice, legal services	The Respondent is a corporation with "legal" in the title. Respondent claims to help people exit timeshare agreements. Complainant's client had to take out a \$16,561.00 loan with a \$5,592.68 finance charge at an APR of 19.99% just to work with Respondent. Respondent took the money but did not take any action.	Yes

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25-42	12/15/2025	Individual	Out-of-state lawyer	legal advice, legal documents, negotiated legal rights, offered to provide legal services	Complainant alleges that the respondent provided legal advice and direction that materially affected Washington-based legal rights and proceedings, including matters occurring while a Washington Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO) was in effect and involving Washington parties. No clear evidence was provided.	No
25-43	12/18/2025	Lawyer	Paralegal	legal advice, legal documents	Complainant is an lawyer that interviewed Respondent for a job. Respondent claimed to be a "freelance paralegal" and admitted to giving legal advice and preparing forms for pro se litigants.	Yes
26-01	1/2/2026	Lawyer	Notario	legal advice, legal documents, legal services	Complainant alleges that Respondent claims to be an lawyer and offered to assist a non-english speaker with an immigration case. Respondent allegedly took money and ruined an immigration case that Complainant is now trying to fix. The money paid to Respondent was never returned.	Yes
26-02	1/9/2026	Individual	Lawyer - voluntarily resigned	legal advice, legal documents, legal services	Complainant is a homeowner and Respondent is an HOA Board member and on the "Legal & Rules Committee". Complainant alleges that Respondent is giving legal advice and direction regarding ongoing litigation against the Board.	Yes
26-03	1/29/2026	Individual	Individual	legal advice, legal services	Complainant and Respondent are involved in a contractual dispute. Respondent identified themselves as an lawyer but is not licensed to practice law in WA. When the Complainant pointed out that Respondent is not listed in the WSBA directory, Respondent created a fake email with a fake name stating to be an lawyer for Respondent. The name used was also not someone licensed to practice in WA.	Yes
26-04	1/30/2026	Individual	Unknown	legal documents, appeared in court	An lawyer passed away and someone at the law firm is filing documents with the court that have the deceased lawyer's signature and are dated after the lawyer passed.	Yes

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26-05	2/5/2026	Out-of-state Lawyer	Unknown	legal advice, legal services	Complainant is an out-of-state lawyer and Respondent is using Complainant's name and picture to pose as an immigration lawyer in WA.	Yes
26-06	2/6/2026	Individual	Out-of-state lawyer	legal advice, legal services	Respondent was working as an lawyer at a law firm in WA but is not licensed to practice law in WA.	Yes
26-07	2/13/2026	Individual	Individual	legal advice, legal documents, legal services	Respondent claimed to be an immigration lawyer and Complainant paid Respondent \$2,800 to assist with an immigration case. Respondent is not licensed to practice law in WA.	Yes
26-08	2/20/2026	Individual	Paralegal	legal advice, legal documents, appeared in court, legal rights, legal services	Respondent allegedly drafted and filed legal documents, advised witnesses, and acted in a representative capacity for a pro se litigant in a parenting case, including serving papers and providing false information to the GAL, actions the Complainant claims constitute the unlawful practice of law. The complaint further alleges Respondent continued using paralegal position and law firm email to conduct legal service and communications without lawyer supervision as recently as February 2026.	Yes
26-09	2/21/2026	Individual	Individual	legal advice, negotiated legal rights, provide legal services	Respondent was terminated from a company but continued issuing invoices, legal threats, and legal analyses, including interpreting contracts, citing RCW violations, and threatening to file mechanics liens for herself and others. The complaint alleges Respondent is acting as a legal advocate for third parties and doing so through a business entity that has been administratively dissolved for about a year.	No

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26-10	3/4/2026	Individual	Individual	legal advice, legal documents, provide legal services	Respondent offered to handle an asylum case, has filed it, and controls sole access to Complainant's USCIS account, but is refusing to release interview details or account access unless Complainant pays the remaining \$1,000 of a \$6,000 fee—despite already paying \$5,000. Respondent has not provided a written contract, invoice, or receipts, and requested payment through Cash App instead of providing formal documentation.	Yes
26-11	3/19/2026	Individual - McNae	Out of state lawyer - Berlowe	legal advice, legal documents, appeared in court, legal rights	Respondent is an out of state lawyer who is filing documents and appearing in court in Washington. The Complainant has already filed police reports and complaints with the AGO.	No
26-12	3/19/2026	Individual - McNae	Out of state lawyer - Gussin	legal advice, legal documents, appeared in court, legal rights	This complaint is related to 26-11. Respondent is an out of state lawyer who is filing documents and appearing in court in Washington. The Complainant has already filed police reports and complaints with the AGO.	No
26-13	3/23/2026	Lawyer - Gateless	Legal Assistant - Han	legal advice, legal documents, legal rights, legal services	Respondent worked as a legal assistant for the Complainant at NJP. Respondent was investigated for using their position to offer legal advice, and in some cases used their title as well as company resources to engage in the unauthorized practice of law.	Yes
26-14	3/25/2026	Individual	Disbarred lawyer	legal advice, legal documents, legal rights	Respondent works in the legal department at a debt collection agency. Complainant is plaintiff in a case against the agency. Respondent has been communicating with Complainant, trying to settle the case. Respondent is acting in the capacity of a paralegal.	No
26-15	4/6/2026	Lawyer	Individual	legal advice, legal documents, legal rights, legal services	Complainant is filing on behalf of their client. Respondent claimed to be an immigration lawyer and took \$3500 to show up for court but never appeared.	Yes

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26-16	4/9/2026	Individual	Individual	legal documents, negotiated legal rights	Complainant is alleging that Respondent claims to be an lawyer but is not licensed to practice. Respondent has been attempting to serve paperwork on the Complainant and making threats.	Yes
26-17	4/1/2026	Lawyer - Smith	Individual - Armstrong	legal advice, advertising as lawyer	Respondent is ED of WA HRC holding herself out as a lawyer, possibly providing legal advice.	Yes
26-18	4/5/2026	Lawyer - Sanchez	Retired Out of State Lawyer - Wolfson	legal advice, legal documents	Respondent is retired status FL lawyer and is appearing on behalf of a client in Tulalip Tribal court.	Yes
26-19	4/24/2026	Lawyer - Carlson	LMHCA - Lor	legal advice, legal documents, negotiating rights	Respondent is LMHCA in WA negotiating legal rights of a lease	Yes
26-20	4/27/2026	Individual - Holt	Individual - Gray		Respondent was listed on docket as other legal professional. No other info provided.	No
26-21	4/27/2026	Individual - Holt	Individual - Khan		Respondent was listed on docket as other legal professional. No other info provided.	No
26-22	4/30/2026	Lawyer - Ficarrotta	Individual - Kontos	legal documents, holding oneself out as a lawyer	Respondent attempted to open a probate without standing and claimed she was counsel.	Yes