

**THE FLORIDA BAR  
Unlicensed Practice of Law  
Complaint Form**

There is a requirement for you to execute the oath at the end of this form. False statements made in bad faith or with malice may subject you to civil or criminal liability. A copy of your complaint may be sent to the nonlawyer during the course of the investigation. Additionally, if the nonlawyer asks who complained, your name will be provided. Further information may be found in the pamphlet "Filing an Unlicensed Practice of Law Complaint."

Your Name:	<u>David Baum</u>	Nonlawyer's Name:	<u>Elena Sassower</u>
Address:	<u>6101 Meghan Drive</u>	Address:	<u>PO Box 8101</u>
City:	<u>Melbourne</u>	City:	<u>White Plains</u>
State & Zip:	<u>Florida 32940</u>	State & Zip:	<u>NY 10602</u>
Telephone:	<u>321-332-7887</u>	Telephone:	<u>914-421-1200</u>

**Describe your complaint and attach a copy of relevant documents. Please limit complaint and attachments to 25 pages.**

Please see attached documents

Under penalty of perjury, I declare that I have read the foregoing document and that to the best of my knowledge and belief the facts stated in it are true.

  
Signature

11-20-14  
Date

**RETURN TO THE FLORIDA BAR**

UPL Department The Florida Bar Suite 2580 4200 George J. Bean Pkwy. Tampa, FL 33607	UPL Department The Florida Bar The Gateway Center Suite 1625 1000 Legion Place Orlando, FL 32801	UPL Department The Florida Bar Lake Shore Plaza II Suite 130 1300 Concord Ter. Sunrise, FL 33323	UPL Department The Florida Bar Rivergate Plaza Suite M-100 444 Brickell Ave. Miami, FL 33131	UPL Department The Florida Bar 651 E. Jefferson St. Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300
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**Unauthorized Practice of Law Complaint Against Elena Ruth Sassower**

1. I, David Baum, currently serve as Personal Representative of the Estate of Seymour Baum. My father, Seymour Baum, passed away in June of 2012. My sister, Anneen Nina Gloria Baum, filed a will contest under Case No. 05-2012-CP-048323, which was pending before Circuit Judge John Harris in Brevard County, Florida.

2. Judge Harris dismissed Ms. Baum's pleadings for failing to serve the will contest and engaging in dilatory conduct and stall tactics. Ms. Baum has filed an appeal which is pending in the Fifth District Court of Appeal under Case No. 5D14-1652. Briefs in the appeal have not yet been filed.

3. Ms. Baum is now representing herself *pro se* after having been through multiple lawyers and law firms. However, she is being "assisted" in the trial court proceedings and in the appellate proceedings by a New York resident, Elena Ruth Sassower, who works for an organization called "Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc." which claims that one of its purposes is "documenting how judges break the law and get away with it." ([www.judgetwatch.org](http://www.judgetwatch.org)).

4. In the pleadings which Ms. Baum has filed over the past three months, she specifically states that she is being "assisted" by an "independent reviewer". At a recent court hearing, where Ms. Sassower was being disruptive, Ms. Sassower identified herself as the "independent reviewer" to Judge Harris. *See* Oct. 21, 2014 Hrg Tr. at p. 81 ("MS. SASSOWER: Your Honor, Elena Sassower. I'm the author of the procedural history based upon an independent review of the record."). After specifically warning Ms. Sassower to stop interfering with the proceedings, Judge Harris specifically ordered her to step behind the railing and away from counsel table. *Id.* at 170 ("THE COURT: All right. Ma'am, hang on. You're disruptive. You're interrupting. I've had enough of it. You need to go behind the bar, please.").

5. Ms. Sassower has "assisted" in preparing multiple motions which have accused my counsel and Ms. Baum's prior counsel of committing a fraud on the court. She has also "assisted" in the preparation of a motion to recuse the judge alleging that Judge Harris has engaged in "judicial fraud". Her conduct has been disruptive to the trial court and appellate proceedings.

6. I have attached a copy of the motions (without their voluminous exhibits) which specifically state that the "independent reviewer" is assisting in the preparation of the pleadings. I have also attached a portion of a recent transcript wherein Ms. Sassower identified herself as the independent reviewer to Judge Harris. Ms. Sassower's activities are clearly the unauthorized practice of law. *See The Florida Bar v. Mills*, 410 So. 2d 498 (Fla. 1982) (holding that a non-lawyer may not assist in the preparation of pleadings or give advice on case law or court process); Fla. Stat. § 454.23.


7. Though not licensed to practice law, Ms. Sassower has a long and well documented history of encouraging and pursuing inordinately oppressive and vexatious litigation – which she will continue to do in Florida if she is not stopped. *See United States v. Henry*, 821 F. Supp. 2d 249, 256 (D.D.C. 2011)(U.S. District Court noting that it has repeatedly warned the appellant/criminal defendant that Elena Ruth Sassower is neither an attorney nor a duly

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appointed representative and may not represent the defendant's interests); *Sassower v. Comm'n on Judicial Conduct of State*, 289 A.D.2d 119, 734 N.Y.S.2d 68, 69 (N.Y. App. Div. 2001)("The imposition of a filing injunction against both petitioner [Elena Ruth Sassower] and the Center for Judicial Accountability was justified given petitioner's vitriolic ad hominem attacks on the participants in this case, her voluminous correspondence, motion papers and recusal motions in this litigation and her frivolous requests for criminal sanctions[.]"); *Sassower v. Field*, 973 F. 2d 75, 78 (2d Cir. 1992) *cert. denied* 507 U.S. 1043 (1993) *r'hrq denied* 508 U.S. 968 (1993)(quoting the opinion of the U.S. District Court: "The Sassowers pursued this litigation as if it was a holy war and not a court proceeding, managing these proceedings in a fashion that vexatiously, wantonly and for oppressive reasons increased the legal fees enormously."); S. Res. 323 (108th Congress 2d Session)(Resolution of the United States Senate authorizing Senate counsel to represent various United States Senators subpoenaed by Elena Ruth Sassower in connection with the then pending prosecution against her in *United States of America v. Elena Ruth Sassower*, Superior Court of the District of Columbia, Crim. No. M-4113-3. Ms. Sassower was later convicted of disrupting Congress and sentenced to six months of incarceration. *See also Sassower v. U.S.*, Nos. 04-CM-760 & 04-CO-1600, 915 A.2d 964, Mem. Op. & J. (D.C. 2006)(affirming conviction and incarceration) *cert. denied*, 552 U.S. 892 (2007), *r'hrq denied*, 552 U.S. 1058 (2007)).

8. I respectfully request that the Florida Bar immediately investigate this issue and demand that Ms. Sassower cease and desist engaging in the unauthorized practice of law. Given the disruptive nature of the conduct and the filings, I kindly request that the Florida Bar address this issue on an expedited basis.

Under penalty of perjury, I declare that I have read the foregoing document and that to the best of my knowledge and belief the facts stated in it are true.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Date