

Ethics and Professional Responsibility

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To Find Model Rules and Standards

American Bar Association Center for Professional Responsibility Resources

Model Rules of Professional Conduct

Print: Reserve KF 305 .A21 2008

ABA: http://www.abanet.org/cpr/mrpc/mrpc_toc.html

Cornell LII: <http://www.law.cornell.edu/ethics/aba/>

Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct
and Code of Judicial Conduct

Westlaw: ABA--MRPC

Model Rules for Lawyer Disciplinary Enforcement

Print: Reserve KF 308 .A59 A48 2001

ABA: <http://www.abanet.org/cpr/disenf/contents.html>

Westlaw: ABA-RLDE

Model Code of Judicial Conduct, February 2007

ABA: http://www.abanet.org/judicialethics/ABA_MCJC_approved.pdf

Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct
and Code of Judicial Conduct

Westlaw: ABA-CJC

Annotated Model Rules of Professional Conduct (6th ed. 2007)

Contains the Rules, Comments and a listing of relevant cases. Finding Aids include an index, table of cases, and correlation table between Model Code and Model Rule provisions.

Print: Reserve KF 305 .A212 2007

Westlaw: ABA-AMRPC

Compendium of Professional Responsibility Rules and Standards, 2008 Edition

Print: Reserve KF 305 .A2 2008

Other Professional Responsibility Rules Resources

The *International Bar Association* adopted numerous standards and codes concerning legal ethics. According to the website, the IBA is currently revising some of its ethics standards. See http://www.ibanet.org/aboutiba/IBA_Resolutions.cfm for details.

Rena A. Gorlin, ed., Codes of Professional Responsibility: Ethics Standards in Business, Health, and Law (4th ed. 1999)

Contains the complete or excerpted texts of ethical standards in many professions, including law.

Print: Reference BJ 1725 .C57 1999

Illinois Institute of Technology, Center for the Study of Ethics in the Professions at IIT website: <http://ethics.iit.edu/codes/coe.html>

Contains a wide selection of codes of ethics of professional societies, corporations, government, and academic institutions. The [Index of Codes](#) provides a subject list of codes included on the site.

To Find State Professional Responsibility Rules

Most state professional responsibility rules are included with the state's court rules. For many states, the court rules are published as part of the **annotated code** as well as in separate **practitioner desk books**.

To locate state professional responsibility rules in the library's collection, try the following basic searches in the InfoHawk Library Catalog:

Subject beginning with: court rules—[state]

Subject beginning with: legal ethics—[state]

For a compilation of state ethics rules, see Roy M. Mersky and Norman Quist, ed. National Reporter on Legal Ethics and Professional Responsibility, KF 305 .A8 N38 1983, a looseleaf publication, organized

by state, which contains the texts of state Rules of Professional Conduct or Codes of Professional Responsibility and state Codes of Judicial Conduct.

You can also access state ethics rules through the following sources:

Cornell's Legal Information Institute: <http://www.law.cornell.edu/ethics/listing.html>

sunEthics: http://www.sunethics.com/other_states.htm

Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Find Statutes & Rules>By State

Westlaw: Topical Practice Areas>Legal Ethics & Professional Responsibility>State Rules of Professional Conduct

Iowa Ethics Rules

Iowa's Rules of Professional Conduct and other ethics rules, Chapters 32 – 45 of the Iowa Court Rules, are available in the following sources:

Print: Iowa Court Rules, KFI 4729.A2 2002, Reserve, 2nd Floor Iowa Core Collection

Iowa Rules of Court--State (West) Reserve KFI 4729 .A198 State [year]

Iowa Code Annotated, KFI 4230 1946 .A44 v.57J

Iowa Judicial Branch:

[http://www.judicial.state.ia.us/Professional Regulation/Rules of Professional Conduct/](http://www.judicial.state.ia.us/Professional%20Regulation/Rules%20of%20Professional%20Conduct/)

Lexis: Legal>States Legal – U.S.>Iowa>Find Statutes, Regulations & Administrative

Materials>By Court Rules>IA – Iowa State & Federal Court Rules

Westlaw: IA-RULES

To Find Ethics Opinions

The ABA and state professional responsibility boards issue *ethics opinions*, advisory opinions attorneys request to determine acceptable conduct under the ethics rules. Formal ethics opinions focus on matters of general interest to the bar while informal ethics opinions focus on specific factual situations.

American Bar Association Ethics Opinions

Formal Ethics Opinions, (1924-present)

Print: KF 305 .A24 (1967 - present)

KF 305 .A22 (1924 - 1967)

The print resources contain an index and a citator for locating opinions by rule number.

ABA: <http://www.abanet.org/cpr/pubs/ethicopinions.html>

Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Search Ethics Opinions>Legal Ethics

Opinions>ABA Formal Ethics Opinions

Westlaw: ABA-ETHOP

Informal Ethics Opinions, (1961 to 1989)

Print: KF 305 .A24 (1961 - 1989)
KF 305 .A23 (1961 - 1973)
Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Search Ethics Opinions>Legal Ethics
Opinions>ABA Informal Ethics Opinions
Westlaw: ABA-ETHOP

State Ethics Opinions

Recent opinions often first appear in the *state's bar journal*, such as Iowa Lawyer KF 200 .I6 and are occasionally published in separate publications. To find state ethics opinions, try the following basic searches in the InfoHawk Library Catalog:

Subject beginning with: legal ethics—[state]
Subject beginning with: legal ethics—[state]—cases
Subject beginning with: bar associations—[state]—periodicals

For a compilation of state opinions, see

Roy M. Mersky and Norman Quist, ed. **National Reporter on Legal Ethics and Professional Responsibility**. KF 305 .A8 N38 1983

A looseleaf publication organized by state. Four "Current" volumes contain recent state formal and informal ethics opinions. Older opinions are transferred to annual binders. This publication is awkward to use in its print format. Instead, access this publication through the Lexis directory, following these links: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Search Ethics Opinions>National Reporter Ethics Opinions>National Reporter on Legal Ethics and Professional Responsibility

For ethics opinions from individual states, you can also use the following resources:

Cornell's Legal Information Institute: <http://www.law.cornell.edu/ethics/listing.html>

sunEthics: http://www.sunethics.com/other_states.htm

Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Search Ethics Opinions >By State

Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Search Ethics Opinions>National Reporter
Ethics Opinions>National Reporter on Legal Ethics and Professional Responsibility

Westlaw: Topical Practice Areas>Legal Ethics & Professional Responsibility>Ethics Opinions

Iowa Ethics Opinions

Print: Formal Opinions of the Iowa Supreme Court Board of Professional Ethics and Conduct,

Reserve KFI 4276.5 .A2 A 165 [Contains a subject index and the formal opinions from
July 1, 1965 to July 1, 1998.]

Iowa Lawyer, KF 200 .I6

Iowa Bar Association:

<http://www.iowabar.org/ethics.nsf/Ethics%20Opinions?OpenFrameset>

Note: Some areas of the ISBA website are restricted to ISBA members and, in the past, the ethics resources have been restricted. The ISBA graciously provided us with a User Name and Password for educational purposes. Please ask a Reference Librarian for the password.

Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Search Ethics Opinions>National Reporter Ethics Opinions>National Reporter on Legal Ethics and Professional Responsibility> National Reporter on Legal Ethics and Prof. Responsibility-IA Opinions

To Find Disciplinary Actions

State professional responsibility boards also issue *disciplinary actions*, such as reprimands, suspensions, or license revocations, against attorneys who violate the ethics rules. Attorney disciplinary actions are usually published in the state bar journals, shelved alphabetically on the first floor of the Law Library in the KF 200s. Unfortunately, disciplinary actions are rarely indexed, which hinders research.

Many states provide access to disciplinary actions through the state bar association web pages or the state judicial web pages. For example, check out Iowa's Search for Disciplinary and Disability Orders at <https://www.iacourtcommissions.org/icc/SearchDiscipline.do>. The American Bar Association provides a gateway to state disciplinary commissions at <http://www.abanet.org/cpr/regulation/directory.pdf>. You will have to explore linked pages, however, to locate the disciplinary actions within the sites.

To Find Court Cases Involving Ethics

Courts often decide cases involving ethical issues, such as malpractice and ineffective assistance of counsel. To aid individuals researching ethical issues, Westlaw and Lexis have created separate databases of the court cases involving ethics. The phrase “ethics cases” refers both to these special databases and to the cases contained within these databases.

Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Find Cases>Ethics Cases, All States
For individual states, use Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Find Cases>By State

Westlaw: FETH-CS (all Federal ethics cases)
METH-CS (all state ethics cases)
For individual state, use the two-letter postal code followed by ETH-CS, e.g. IAETH-CS
for Iowa Ethics Cases

To Find Analysis and Commentary

Below are a selection of useful professional responsibility restatements, treatises and hornbooks, law reviews, journals, and other resources. To find additional publications on legal ethics, try the following basic searches in the InfoHawk Library Catalog:

Subject beginning with: legal ethics
Subject beginning with: legal ethics—United States
Subject beginning with: legal ethics—United States—cases

Restatement (Third) of the Law Governing Lawyers

Print: Reserve KF 300 .R47 2000

Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Search Analysis, Law Reviews & Journals>Restatement 3d, Law Governing Lawyers-Case Citations

Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Search Analysis, Law Reviews & Journals>Restatement 3d, Law Governing Lawyers-Rule Section

Westlaw: REST-LGOVL

Thomas D. Morgan, Lawyer Law: Comparing the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct with the ALI Restatement (Third) of the Law Governing Lawyers, KF 306 .M667 2005

A Legislative History: The Development of the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct, 1982-2005, KF 306 .L45 2005

ABA/BNA Lawyer's Manual on Professional Conduct

Contains commentary as well as the text of the Model Rules, the Model Code and various Model Standards. This resource also contains a current awareness newsletter entitled "Current Reports."

Print: KF 306 .A71

BNA: Link through Law Library Database page

[\[http://www.law.uiowa.edu/library/database_list.php\]](http://www.law.uiowa.edu/library/database_list.php); select BNA Law School Professional Information Center, then select ABA/BNA Lawyer's Manual on Professional Conduct.

Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Search Analysis, Law Reviews & Journals>ABA/BNA Lawyers' Manual on Professional Conduct

Westlaw: Topical Practice Areas>Legal Ethics & Professional Responsibility>BNA Legal Ethics & Professional Responsibility Materials

Geoffrey C. Hazard and W. William Hodes, The Law of Lawyering (3rd ed. 2001). Reserve KF 306 .H33 2001

Ronald D. Rotunda and John S. Dzienkowski, Professional Responsibility: A Student's Guide, Reserve KF 306 .Z9 R68 2008

Monroe H. Freedman and Abbe Smith, Understanding Lawyers' Ethics, (2d ed. 2002), Reserve KF 306 .F76 2002

W. Bradley Wendel, Professional Responsibility: Examples & Explanations 2d, Reserve KF 306 .W46 2007

Ronald D. Rotunda, Legal Ethics in a Nutshell 3d, Reserve KF 206 .Z9 R668 2007

Patrick E. Longan, Questions & Answers: Professional Responsibility, Reserve KF 306 .Z9 L66
2003

Cardozo Public Law, Policy, and Ethics Journal (2003 - present)

Print: K 3 .A7

Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Search Analysis, Law Reviews & Journals>Law
Reviews and Journals>Cardozo Public Law, Policy, and Ethics

Westlaw: CDZPLPEJ

Other: <http://www.heinonline.org/HOL/Index?index=journals/cardplp&collection=journals>

Ethical Theory and Moral Practice (1998 - present)

Print: K 5 .T339 (2005 - present)

Other:

<http://proxy.lib.uiowa.edu/login?url=http://proxy.lib.uiowa.edu/login?url=http://springerlink.metapress.com/content/1572-8447/>

Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics (1987 – present)

Print: K 7 .E6655

Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Search Analysis, Law Reviews & Journals>Law
Reviews and Journals>Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics

Westlaw: GEOJLE

Other:

<http://proxy.lib.uiowa.edu/login?url=http://www.heinonline.org/HOL/Index?index=journals/geojle&collection=journals>

International Journal of Ethics (2004-present)

Print: JX 1 .I5495

Journal of Ethics (1997-present)

Print: K 10 .O83447

Other: <http://proxy.lib.uiowa.edu/login?url=http://www.springerlink.com/content/1572-8609>

Journal of Ethics & Social Philosophy (2005 – present)

Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Search Analysis, Law Reviews & Journals>Law
Reviews and Journals>Journal of Ethics & Social Philosophy

Westlaw: JETHSP

Other: Available through LexisNexis Academic at the Main Library

Journal of the Institute for the Study of Legal Ethics (1996-present)

Print: K 10 .O908 (1996-1999)

Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Search Analysis, Law Reviews & Journals>Law Reviews and Journals>Journal of the Institute for the Study of Legal Ethics
Westlaw: JISLE
Other: Available through LexisNexis Academic at the Main Library

Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics (1993-present)

Print: K 13 .E2655
Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Search Analysis, Law Reviews & Journals>Law Reviews and Journals>The Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics
Westlaw: JLMEDETH
Other: <http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/loi/jlme>

Journal of the Legal Profession (1976 – present)

Print: K 10 .O916
Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Search Analysis, Law Reviews & Journals>Law Reviews and Journals>The Journal of the Legal Profession
Westlaw: JLEGPRO
Other:
<http://proxy.lib.uiowa.edu/login?url=http://www.heinonline.org/HOL/Index?index=journals/jlegpro&collection=journals>

Legal Ethics (1998 - present)

Print: K 12 .E344
Other: <http://purl.lib.uiowa.edu/rd.cgi?http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/hart/legeth>

Notre Dame Journal of Law, Ethics & Public Policy (1984 – present)

Print: K 14 .O846
Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Search Analysis, Law Reviews & Journals>Law Reviews and Journals>Notre Dame Journal of Law, Ethics & Public Policy
Westlaw: NTDJLEPP
Other:
<http://proxy.lib.uiowa.edu/login?url=http://www.heinonline.org/HOL/Index?index=journals/ndlep&collection=journals>

Ethics (previous title: International Journal of Ethics) (1890-present)

Print: K 5 .T342 (1966-present)
Westlaw: ETHICS
Other:
<http://purl.lib.uiowa.edu/rd.cgi?http://www.jstor.org/action/showPublication?journalCode=intejethi> (1890-1938)
<http://purl.lib.uiowa.edu/rd.cgi?http://www.jstor.org/journals/00141704.html> (1938-2001)
<http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/loi/ET/journal/available.html> (1998-present)

You can also access commentary and analysis through the following sources:

Freivogel on Conflicts: <http://www.freivogelonconflicts.com/>

Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Search Analysis, Law Reviews & Journals

Westlaw: Topical Practice Areas>Legal Ethics & Professional Responsibility>Law Reviews,
Legal Texts & Periodicals

Topical Practice Areas>Legal Ethics & Professional Responsibility>Forms, Treatises,
CLEs and Other Practice Materials

To Read Current Events

ABA/BNA Lawyer's Manual on Professional Conduct, KF 306 .A71

See the bi-weekly newsletter, labeled “Current Reports” to determine current events concerning legal ethics. You can find recent newsletters in the “Current Reports” binder; older issues are bound annually.

Print: KF 306 .A71

BNA: Link through Law Library Database page

[\[http://www.law.uiowa.edu/library/database_list.php\]](http://www.law.uiowa.edu/library/database_list.php); select BNA Law School Professional Information Center, then select ABA/BNA Lawyer’s Manual on Professional Conduct.

Lexis: Legal>Area of Law – By Topic>Ethics>Search Analysis, Law Reviews &
Journals>ABA/BNA Lawyers’ Manual on Professional Conduct

Westlaw: ABA-BNA-MOPCNL

LegalEthics.com (Blog and a Gateway): <http://www.legalethics.com>

ABA Journal Law News Now: <http://www.abajournal.com/topics/legal+ethics>

Ethics and Lawyering Today newsletter: <http://www.ethicsandlawyering.com/>

Legal Ethics Forum (Blog): <http://www.legalethicsforum.com/>

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