

# **Fishing for Ethics**

## **TEAM Annual Conference**

**March 7, 2018**

**Branson, MO**

**Kevin C. Skibiski, PE, SE, PLS**

**Retired Consulting Engineer**

**Chair - Engineering Division**

**Missouri Board of Architects, Professional Engineers,  
Professional Land Surveyors and Professional  
Landscape Architects**



**The views expressed in this presentation my personal opinions and do not represent the opinions or views of the Missouri Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Professional Land Surveyors and Professional Landscape Architects.**

**State Board  
for  
Architects, Professional  
Engineers, Professional  
Land Surveyors and  
Professional Landscape  
Architects**

## **327.031 Board Established**

- Licensure of Architects and Professional Engineers was established by the Missouri Legislature in **1941**.
- The Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Professional Land Surveyors and Professional Landscape Architects is now part of the **Division of Professional Registration**, within the **Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions, and Professional Registration**.

# **327.031 Board Established**

**1. The "Missouri Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Professional Land Surveyors and Professional Landscape Architects" is hereby established and shall consist of fifteen members: a **chairperson**, who may be either an architect, a professional engineer, a professional land surveyor, or a professional landscape architect; **three architects**, who shall constitute the architectural division of the board; **four professional engineers**, who shall constitute its professional engineering division; **three professional land surveyors**, who shall constitute its professional land surveying division; **three professional landscape architects**, who shall constitute its professional landscape architectural division; and a voting **public member**.**



**Robert N. Hartnett, PLA**  
Board Chair



**Kevin C. Skibiski, PE, SE, PLS**  
Division Chair



**Michael C. Freeman, PLS**  
Division Chair



**Robert S. "Bob" Shotts, PLA, PLS**  
Division Chair



**James C. "JC" Rearden, AIA, CSI**  
Division Chair



**Abiodun A. "Abe" Adewale, PE**



**Daniel L. Govero, PLS**



**Noel T. Fehr, PLA**



**Martha K. John, AIA**



**J. Michael Flowers, PLS**



**Sherry L. Cooper**  
Public Member



**Michael L. Popp, AIA, CSI\***



**Craig M. Lucas, PE, CCM**



**Eric D. Davis, Jr., PLA**

## **Today we will cover:**

- 1. The definition of ethics and ethical conduct.**
- 2. Engineering Ethics**
- 3. Break**
- 4. Missouri Statutes and Rules**
- 5. Examples of complaints to APEPLSPLA**
- 6. Ethics of Fishing**



# **Part 1**

## **The definition of ethics and ethical conduct**



# Ethics

**Engineering is not just applying scientific laws and principles to technical problems. It is basically concerned with improving the lot of society.**

# Ethics

**“moral principles”**

**“right and wrong”**

**“good and bad”**

**“does the end justify the means?”**

# Ethics

## Dictionary.com

- **A system of moral principles**
- **The rules of conduct recognized in respect to a particular class of human actions or a particular group, culture, etc.**

# Ethics

## Dictionary.com

- **Moral principles, as of an individual**
- **That branch of philosophy dealing with values relating to human conduct, with respect to the rightness and wrongness of certain actions and to the goodness and badness of the motives and ends of such actions**

# Ethics

## Merriam-Webster

- A guiding philosophy

## The Free Dictionary

- The rules or standards governing the conduct of a person or members of a **profession**

# Ethics

**is not something you learn in school  
or on the job after graduation.**



# Ethics

**I believe you are molded early in life by those closest to you, and that ethics is part of your moral fiber.**

# Ethics

**This is not to say you cannot make, or be enticed to make, poor decisions later in life.**

# Ethics

**Those situations happen to all of us,  
but it is how we react that sets us  
apart.**

# Ethics

**How ethical are engineers?**

**How are we perceived?**

# Ethics

## **Gallup Poll on Honesty/Ethics in Professions**

(revised per latest polls 2015-2017, must have multiple years on poll and latest numbers must be no more than 5 years old)

# Ethics

**Lobbyists**

**8%**

# Ethics

**Lobbyists**

**8%**

**Telemarketers**

**8%**

# Ethics

<b>Lobbyists</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Telemarketers</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Car Salespeople</b>	<b>10%</b>



# Ethics

<b>Lobbyists</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Telemarketers</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Car Salespeople</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Members of Congress</b>	<b>11%</b>

# Ethics

<b>Lobbyists</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Telemarketers</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Car Salespeople</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Members of Congress</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>Insurance Salespeople</b>	<b>12%</b>

# Ethics

<b>Lobbyists</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Telemarketers</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Car Salespeople</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Members of Congress</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>Insurance Salespeople</b>	<b>12%</b>
<b>Advertising Practitioners</b>	<b>12%</b>

# Ethics

<b>Lobbyists</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Telemarketers</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Car Salespeople</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Members of Congress</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>Insurance Salespeople</b>	<b>12%</b>
<b>Advertising Practitioners</b>	<b>12%</b>
<b>Stockbrokers</b>	<b>12%</b>

**Ethics**

**Senators**

**12%**

# Ethics

**Senators**

**12%**

**Business Executives**

**16%**

# Ethics

**Senators** **12%**

**Business Executives** **16%**

**Labor Union Leaders** **18%**

# Ethics

**Senators** **12%**

**Business Executives** **16%**

**Labor Union Leaders** **18%**

**Lawyers** **18%**



# Ethics

**Senators** **12%**

**Business Executives** **16%**

**Labor Union Leaders** **18%**

**Lawyers** **18%**

**State Governors** **18%**

# Ethics

<b>Senators</b>	<b>12%</b>
<b>Business Executives</b>	<b>16%</b>
<b>Labor Union Leaders</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>Lawyers</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>State Governors</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>State Officeholders</b>	<b>19%</b>

# Ethics

<b>Senators</b>	<b>12%</b>
<b>Business Executives</b>	<b>16%</b>
<b>Labor Union Leaders</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>Lawyers</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>State Governors</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>State Officeholders</b>	<b>19%</b>
<b>Real Estate Agents</b>	<b>20%</b>

# Ethics

**TV Reporters**

**23%**

# Ethics

**TV Reporters**

**23%**

**Journalists**

**23%**

# Ethics

**TV Reporters 23%**

**Journalists 23%**

**Local Officeholders 24%**

# Ethics

**TV Reporters 23%**

**Journalists 23%**

**Local Officeholders 24%**

**Building Contractors 25%**

# Ethics

**TV Reporters 23%**

**Journalists 23%**

**Local Officeholders 24%**

**Building Contractors 25%**

**Newspaper Reporters 25%**



# Ethics

**TV Reporters 23%**

**Journalists 23%**

**Local Officeholders 24%**

**Building Contractors 25%**

**Newspaper Reporters 25%**

**Bankers 25%**

# Ethics

**TV Reporters 23%**

**Journalists 23%**

**Local Officeholders 24%**

**Building Contractors 25%**

**Newspaper Reporters 25%**

**Bankers 25%**

**Nursing Home Operators 26%**

# Ethics

**Auto Mechanics**

**32%**

# Ethics

**Auto Mechanics**

**32%**

**Psychiatrists**

**38%**

# Ethics

**Auto Mechanics 32%**

**Psychiatrists 38%**

**Chiropractors 38%**

# Ethics

**Auto Mechanics 32%**

**Psychiatrists 38%**

**Chiropractors 38%**

**Accountants 39%**

# Ethics

**Auto Mechanics 32%**

**Psychiatrists 38%**

**Chiropractors 38%**

**Accountants 39%**

**Clergy 42%**

# Ethics

<b>Auto Mechanics</b>	<b>32%</b>
<b>Psychiatrists</b>	<b>38%</b>
<b>Chiropractors</b>	<b>38%</b>
<b>Accountants</b>	<b>39%</b>
<b>Clergy</b>	<b>42%</b>
<b>Judges</b>	<b>43%</b>



# Ethics

<b>Auto Mechanics</b>	<b>32%</b>
<b>Psychiatrists</b>	<b>38%</b>
<b>Chiropractors</b>	<b>38%</b>
<b>Accountants</b>	<b>39%</b>
<b>Clergy</b>	<b>42%</b>
<b>Judges</b>	<b>43%</b>
<b>Funeral Directors</b>	<b>44%</b>

# Ethics

**Day Care Providers**

**46%**

# Ethics

**Day Care Providers 46%**

**College Teachers 47%**

# Ethics

**Day Care Providers 46%**

**College Teachers 47%**

**Police Officers 56%**

# Ethics

**Day Care Providers 46%**

**College Teachers 47%**

**Police Officers 56%**

**Dentists 59%**

# Ethics

**Day Care Providers 46%**

**College Teachers 47%**

**Police Officers 56%**

**Dentists 59%**

**High School Teachers 60%**

# Ethics

**Day Care Providers 46%**

**College Teachers 47%**

**Police Officers 56%**

**Dentists 59%**

**High School Teachers 60%**

**Pharmacists 62%**

# Ethics

<b>Day Care Providers</b>	<b>46%</b>
<b>College Teachers</b>	<b>47%</b>
<b>Police Officers</b>	<b>56%</b>
<b>Dentists</b>	<b>59%</b>
<b>High School Teachers</b>	<b>60%</b>
<b>Pharmacists</b>	<b>62%</b>
<b>Medical Doctors</b>	<b>65%</b>



# Ethics

## Engineers

65%

# Ethics

Engineers

65%

Grade School Teachers

66%

# Ethics

Engineers

65%

Grade School Teachers

66%

Military Officers

71%

# Ethics

Engineers

65%

Grade School Teachers

66%

Military Officers

71%

Nurses

82%

YOU FAILED THE ONLINE ETHICS COURSE FOR THE THIRD TIME.



Dilbert.com DilbertCartoonist@gmail.com

YOU CAN'T BE AN ENGINEER FOR THIS COMPANY IF YOU HAVE NO GRASP OF BUSINESS ETHICS.



7-26-13 ©2013 Scott Adams, Inc./Dist. by Universal Uclick

YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE. I'M PUTTING YOU ON THE MANAGEMENT FAST TRACK.



HUH.



# Ethical Conduct

# Ethical Conduct

**An important ethical standard is the use of codes, rules, guidelines and other systems that attempt to identify certain behaviors or means which are in themselves unethical.**

# **Ethical Conduct**

**These culturally designed and promulgated codes of conduct or ethical systems generally provide lists of what things one should do and not do.**



# Ethical Conduct

They range from very general, such as the *Ten Commandments*, to professionally or organizationally specific, like a legal code of ethics or a company code of conduct.

# **Ethical Conduct**

**Most of these rules are designed to create fairness and equity, respect for others, and systems of non-discrimination.**

**They also function to balance power and protect the powerless.**

# Ethical Conduct

**The whole idea of ethics as a disciplined inquiry into the principles of correct moral decision-making and best ways of life has been supplanted by "ethics" as a code of conduct with specific rules or political content.**

# Ethical Conduct

can be defined as being in accordance with the rules or standards for right conduct or practice, especially the standards of a **profession**.

**As engineers we have certain characteristics that are common with all professions.**

# Characteristics of a Profession

**1. Skill based on theoretical knowledge**

# Characteristics of a Profession

- 1. Skill based on theoretical knowledge**
- 2. Professional association**

# Characteristics of a Profession

- 1. Skill based on theoretical knowledge**
- 2. Professional association**
- 3. Extensive period of education**



# Characteristics of a Profession

- 1. Skill based on theoretical knowledge**
- 2. Professional association**
- 3. Extensive period of education**
- 4. Testing of competence**

# Characteristics of a Profession

## 5. Institutional training

# Characteristics of a Profession

**5. Institutional training**

**6. Licensed practitioners**

# Characteristics of a Profession

**5. Institutional training**

**6. Licensed practitioners**

**7. Code of professional conduct or ethics**

# Characteristics of a Profession

**5. Institutional training**

**6. Licensed practitioners**

**7. Code of professional conduct or ethics**

**8. Public service**

# Moral Dilemmas

- **The problem with vagueness.**
- **The problem with conflicting reasons.** You may be unable to choose between two good moral solutions. You have to assign priority, through knowledge or your value system.

- **The problem with disagreement.**  
There may be two or more solutions, each of which have merits, but not in all aspects. You have to interpret, apply different moral reasons, and analyze and rank the decisions. Select the best suitable, under existing and most probable conditions.

# **Chemical Plant Dilemma**

**On a midnight shift, a botched solution of sodium cyanide is temporarily stored in drums for reprocessing.**

**Two weeks later, the day shift foreman cannot find the drums.**



# **Chemical Plant Dilemma**

**Roy, the Plant Manager, finds out that the botched drums had been illegally dumped into the sanitary sewer.**

**He severely disciplines the night shift foreman.**

# **Chemical Plant Dilemma**

**Upon making discrete inquiries, he finds out that no apparent harm has resulted from the dumping. (Martin and Schinzinger, pg 32)**

**Should Roy inform government authorities, as is required by law in this kind of situation?**

# Moral Values

**Moral values take many forms, including:**

- **Responsibilities**
- **Ideal character traits**
- **Social policies**
- **Relationships desirable for individuals**
- **Corporation engaged in technological development**

# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

**School**

**1. Cheating**

# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

## **School**

- 1. Cheating**
- 2. Copy someone's homework**

# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

## **School**

- 1. Cheating**
- 2. Copy someone's homework**
- 3. Provide homework to be copied**

# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

## **School**

- 1. Cheating**
- 2. Copy someone's homework**
- 3. Provide homework to be copied**
- 4. Plagiarism**



# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

## **School**

- 1. Cheating**
- 2. Copy someone's homework**
- 3. Provide homework to be copied**
- 4. Plagiarism**
- 5. Taking a test for someone else**

# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

## **Work**

- 1. Using office phone, computer, copier, etc. for personal business**

# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

## **Work**

- 1. Using office phone, computer, copier, etc. for personal business**
- 2. Calling in sick**

# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

## **Work**

- 1. Using office phone, computer, copier, etc. for personal business**
- 2. Calling in sick**
- 3. Coming in late**

# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

## **Work**

- 1. Using office phone, computer, copier, etc. for personal business**
- 2. Calling in sick**
- 3. Coming in late**
- 4. Leaving early**

# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

## **5. Substance abuse**

# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

- 5. Substance abuse**
- 6. False timesheets**

# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

- 5. Substance abuse**
- 6. False timesheets**
- 7. Shifting time to a project with budget**



# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

- 5. Substance abuse**
- 6. False timesheets**
- 7. Shifting time to a project with budget**
- 8. Charging clients for work not performed**

# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

- 5. Substance abuse**
- 6. False timesheets**
- 7. Shifting time to a project with budget**
- 8. Charging clients for work not performed**
- 9. Software piracy**

# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

**10. Having vendor design project**

# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

**10. Having vendor design project**

**11. Bribery**

# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

- 10. Having vendor design project**
- 11. Bribery**
- 12. Manipulation of contracts**

# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

- 10. Having vendor design project**
- 11. Bribery**
- 12. Manipulation of contracts**
- 13. Destroying or damaging files**

# **Common Ethical Dilemmas Facing Engineers**

- 10. Having vendor design project**
- 11. Bribery**
- 12. Manipulation of contracts**
- 13. Destroying or damaging files**
- 14. Stealing equipment**

# **Part 2**

# **Engineering Ethics**





Alex Coanck '10

# What are engineering ethics?

# **Engineering Ethics**

**is the study of moral values, issues and decisions involved in engineering practice.**

# Engineering Ethics

**is also the field of applied ethics and system of moral principals that apply to the practice of engineering.**

# Engineering Ethics

**The field examines and sets the obligations by engineers to society, to their clients, and to the profession.**

# Engineering Ethics

**is not only teaching moral behavior, but also increasing the ability of engineers and other professionals to boldly face the moral problems arising from technological advancements, changes and other related activities.**

# Engineering Ethics

## Driverless Vehicles

- Artificial intelligence
- GPS accuracy
- Data ownership
- Vehicle connectivity
- Cyber security
- Ethical decision making

# Engineering Ethics

**Engineering rose as a distinct profession in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and engineers saw themselves as either independent professional practitioners or technical employees of large enterprises.**

# Engineering Ethics

**Growing professionalism gave rise to the development of engineering societies:**

**The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) (1851)**

**The American Institute of Electrical Engineers (AIEE) (1884)**



# Engineering Ethics

**The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) (1880)**

**The American Institute of Mining Engineers (AIME) (1871)**

# Engineering Ethics

**ASCE and AIEE were more closely identified with the engineer as a learned professional;**

**ASME and AIME identified with a view that the engineer was a technical employee.**

# Engineering Ethics

At that time ethics was viewed as a **personal** rather than a broad professional concern.

# Engineering Ethics

**Late in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, several significant structural (bridge) failures occurred, forcing the profession to confront shortcomings in technical and construction practice, as well as ethical standards.**

# Engineering Ethics

**One response was the development of formal codes of ethics. ASCE did so in 1914.**

# Engineering Ethics

One response was the development of formal codes of ethics. ASCE did so in 1914.

**It also led to requiring formal credentials for engineers, the beginning of professional licensure.**

# Engineering Ethics

**In 1946 the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) released its Canons of Ethics for Engineers and Rules of Professional Conduct, which evolved into the current Code of Ethics for Engineers.**



# Code of ethics



# **NSPE Code of Ethics for Engineers**

## NSPE Code of Ethics for Engineers

### Preamble

**Engineering is an important and learned profession.**

## NSPE Code of Ethics for Engineers

**As members of this profession, engineers are expected to exhibit the highest standards of honesty and integrity.**

## NSPE Code of Ethics for Engineers

**Engineering has a direct and vital impact on the quality of life for all people.**

## **NSPE Code of Ethics for Engineers**

**Accordingly, the services provided by engineers require honesty, impartiality, fairness, and equity, and must be dedicated to the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare.**

## NSPE Code of Ethics for Engineers

**Engineers must perform under a standard of professional behavior that requires adherence to the highest principles of ethical conduct.**

**NSPE Code of Ethics for Engineers**

# **Rules of Practice**

## Rules of Practice

**1. Engineers shall hold paramount the safety, health, and welfare of the public.**



## Rules of Practice

**2. Engineers shall perform services only in the areas of their competence.**

## Rules of Practice

**3. Engineers shall issue public statements only in an objective and truthful way.**

## Rules of Practice

**4. Engineers shall act for each employer or client as faithful agents or trustees.**

## Rules of Practice

**5. Engineers shall avoid deceptive acts.**

**NSPE Code of Ethics for Engineers**

# **Professional Obligations**

## Professional Obligations

**1. Engineers shall be guided in all their relations by the highest standards of honesty and integrity.**

## Professional Obligations

- a. **Acknowledge errors, do not distort facts**
- b. **Outside employment**
- c. **Stealing employees**
- d. **Promote self-interest**

## **Professional Obligations**

**2. Engineers shall at all times strive to serve the public interest.**



# Professional Obligations

- a. **Public service**
- b. **Conform to standards**
- c. **Sustainable development**

## **Professional Obligations**

**3. Engineers shall avoid all conduct or practice that deceives the public.**

# Professional Obligations

- a. **Misrepresentation or omitting facts**

## Professional Obligations

**4. Engineers shall not disclose, without consent, confidential information concerning the business affairs or technical processes of any present or former client or employer, or public body on which they serve.**

## Professional Obligations

- a. **Seek employment from another entity when having particular knowledge**
- b. **Take adversarial role in a specific project against a former client or employer**

## **Professional Obligations**

**5. Engineers shall not be influenced in their professional duties by conflicting interests.**

## Professional Obligations

- a. Free design from material or equipment suppliers
- b. Commissions or allowances from contractors

## Professional Obligations

**6. Engineers shall not attempt to obtain employment or advancement or professional engagements by untruthfully criticizing other engineers, or by other improper or questionable methods.**



# Professional Obligations

- a. Bribes**
- b. Full time employee accepting part-time work**
- c. Use company equipment for outside private practice.**

## Professional Obligations

**7. Engineers shall not attempt to injure, maliciously or falsely, directly or indirectly, the professional reputation, prospects, practice, or employment of other engineers.**

## **Professional Obligations**

**Engineers who believe others are guilty of unethical or illegal practice shall present such information to the proper authority for action.**



**Whistle blowing**

NSPE Code of Ethics for Engineers

## **Whistle Blowing**

**No topic in Engineering Ethics  
is more controversial than  
“whistle blowing”**

# Whistle Blowing

**“Whistle blowing” is the act of a man or woman who, believing that the public interest overrides the interest of the organization he/she serves, publicly “blows the whistle” if the organization is involved in corrupt, illegal, or harmful activity.**

**NSPE Code of Ethics for Engineers**

## **Whistle Blowing**

**The role of the professional engineer is to provide reliable information to both sides of an issue/development.**

**This can be at great personal consequences, including loss of a job.**

## Whistle Blowing

**Personal factors that inhibit speaking up include:**

- **Fear of reprisal/retaliation.**



# **Whistle Blowing**

**Personal factors that inhibit speaking up include:**

- Fear of reprisal/retaliation**
- Concern that nothing will be done.**

# **Whistle Blowing**

**Personal factors that inhibit speaking up include:**

- Fear of reprisal/retaliation**
- Concern that nothing will be done**
- Lack of self efficacy (the idea that one has the confidence/ability to speak up)**

## Whistle Blowing

**Personal factors that inhibit speaking up include:**

- **Fear of reprisal/retaliation**
- **Concern that nothing will be done**
- **Lack of self efficacy (the idea that one has the confidence/ability to speak up)**
- **Lack of awareness that the behavior is wrong.**

## Whistle Blowing

**Steps to properly “blow the whistle”:**

- **Harm to the public must be serious and considerable**

## Whistle Blowing

**Steps to properly “blow the whistle”:**

- **Harm to the public must be serious and considerable**
- **Superiors must have been made know of the situation**

## Whistle Blowing

**Steps to properly “blow the whistle”:**

- **Harm to the public must be serious and considerable**
- **Superiors must have been made know of the situation**
- **If any proper response is not received, one must exhaust channels within the organization**

## Whistle Blowing

- **Must have documented evidence that would convince a reasonable and impartial observer that your view of the situation is correct**

## Whistle Blowing

- **Must have documented evidence that would convince a reasonable and impartial observer that your view of the situation is correct**
- **There must be strong evidence that making the information public will, in fact, prevent the threatened serious harm**



## Whistle Blowing

- **In many cases the duty can be discharged by advising the client of the consequences in a forthright manner, and assuring the client takes your advice**

## Whistle Blowing

- **The engineer must ensure that the remedial steps are taken; and if they are not, the situation must be reported as previously described.**

## Professional Obligations

**8. Engineers shall accept personal responsibility for their professional activities, provided, however, that engineers may seek indemnification for services arising out of their practice for other than gross negligence, where the engineer's interest cannot be otherwise protected.**

## Professional Obligations

- a. Conform to state registration laws
- b. “cloak” unethical acts

## Professional Obligations

**9. Engineers shall give credit for engineering work to those to whom credit is due, and will recognize the proprietary interests of others.**

## Professional Obligations

- a. Name responsible PE
- b. Duplicating client supplied designs
- c. Ownership of documents
- d. Continue professional development

**Break Number 1**





# **Part 3**

# **Missouri Statutes and Rules**

# **Missouri Revised Statutes**

## **Chapter 327**

## **327.011 Definitions**

***(9) “Incidental Practice”*** - the performance of other professional services licensed under Chapter 327 that are related to a licensee’s professional service; but are **secondary and substantially less in scope** and magnitude when compared to the professional services usually and normally performed by the licensee practicing in their licensed profession.

**This incidental professional service shall be **safely and competently performed** by the licensee without jeopardizing the health, safety and welfare of the public. The licensee shall be **qualified by education, training, and experience**, as determined by the Board and in Sections 327.091, 327.181, 327.272, and 327.600, RSMo and applicable board rules to perform such incidental professional service.**

**20 CSR 2030-2.010**

**Code of Professional Conduct**

**20 CSR 2030-2.010**  
**Code of Professional Conduct**

**This rule establishes a professional code of conduct for architects, professional engineers, professional land surveyors, and professional landscape architects.**

**20 CSR 2030-2.010**

**Code of Professional Conduct**

**These rules of professional conduct  
are binding for every licensee.**

# **20 CSR 2030-2.010**

## **Code of Professional Conduct**

**These rules of professional conduct  
are binding for every licensee.**

**The rules of professional conduct will  
be enforced under the powers vested  
in the Board.**



# **20 CSR 2030-2.010**

## **Code of Professional Conduct**

**Any act or practice found to be in violation of these rules of professional conduct will be grounds for a complaint to be filed with the Administrative Hearing Commission.**

## **20 CSR 2030-2.010**

### **Code of Professional Conduct**

**In the performance of professional services, licensees shall be cognizant that their primary responsibility is to the public, and this shall not be compromised by any self-interest of the client or the licensee.**

# **20 CSR 2030-2.010**

## **Code of Professional Conduct**

**Licensees shall undertake to perform services only when they are qualified by education, training, and experience in the specific technical areas involved.**

# **20 CSR 2030-2.010**

## **Code of Professional Conduct**

**Licensees shall comply with federal, state and municipal laws, codes and ordinances.**

# **20 CSR 2030-2.010**

## **Code of Professional Conduct**

**Licensees shall recognize at all times that their primary obligation is to protect the safety, health, property or welfare of the public.**

## **20 CSR 2030-2.010**

### **Code of Professional Conduct**

**Licenseses shall truthfully and accurately represent to others the extent of their education, training, experience and professional qualifications.**

# **20 CSR 2030-2.010**

## **Code of Professional Conduct**

**Licenseses shall make full disclosure to their employers or clients of potential conflicts of interest, or other circumstances which could influence their judgment on significant issues or the unbiased quality of their services.**

# **20 CSR 2030-2.010**

## **Code of Professional Conduct**

**Licenseses shall not attempt to injure  
the professional reputation,  
prospects of practice or employment  
of other licenseses in a malicious, or  
false manner.**



# **20 CSR 2030-2.010**

## **Code of Professional Conduct**

**Licensees shall not reveal confidential, proprietary or privileged facts or data without the prior consent of the client or employer except as authorized or required by law or rules of the Board.**

# **20 CSR 2030-2.010**

## **Code of Professional Conduct**

**Licenseses having knowledge of any alleged violation of this Code shall cooperate with the proper authorities in furnishing information or assistance as may be required.**

**Texas Tech University  
Murdough Center for  
Engineering  
Professionalism/National  
Institute for Engineering Ethics**

# **Part 5**

## **Examples of Complaints to APEPLSPLA**

**The outcomes of cases in which discipline is given are public information, and are published on the Board website and in the newsletter.**

**Complaint cases and the details of those cases and details of discipline hearings are generally closed files. Names have been deleted to protect me. I will share as much as I can in order to define the ethics violation.**

# **Violations and Penalties**

## **327.441 Denial, Revocation or Suspension of License**

**1. The board **may refuse** to issue any license or certificate of authority . . . for one or any combination of causes stated in subsection 2 of this section. The board shall notify the applicant in writing of the reasons for the refusal and shall advise the applicant of the applicant's right to file a complaint with the administrative hearing commission as provided by chapter 621.**



## **327.441 Denial, Revocation or Suspension of License**

**2. The board may cause a complaint to be filed with the administrative hearing commission as provided by chapter 621 against any holder of any license or certificate of authority required by this chapter or any person who has failed to renew or has surrendered such person's license or certificate of authority, for any one or any combination of the following causes:**

## **327.441 Denial, Revocation or Suspension of License**

**(1) Use of any **controlled substance**, as defined in Chapter 195, or **alcoholic beverage** to an extent that such use impairs a person's ability to perform the work of any profession licensed or regulated by this chapter;**

## **327.441 Denial, Revocation or Suspension of License**

**(2) The person has been finally adjudicated and found guilty, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, in a criminal prosecution under the laws of any state or of the United States. . . for any offense an essential element of which is fraud, dishonesty or an act of violence, or for any offense involving moral turpitude, whether or not sentence is imposed;**

## **327.441 Denial, Revocation or Suspension of License**

**(3) Use of fraud, deception, misrepresentation or bribery in securing any license or certificate of authority issued pursuant to this chapter or in obtaining permission to take any examination given or required pursuant to this chapter;**

## **327.441 Denial, Revocation or Suspension of License**

- (4) Obtaining** or attempting to obtain any fee, charge, tuition or other **compensation by fraud, deception or misrepresentation;**
- (5) Incompetency, misconduct, gross negligence, fraud, misrepresentation or dishonesty in the performance of the functions or duties of any profession licensed or regulated by this chapter;**

## **327.441 Denial, Revocation or Suspension of License**

**(6) Violation of, or assisting or enabling any person to violate, any provision of this chapter, or of any lawful rule or regulation adopted pursuant to this chapter;**

**(7) Impersonation of any person holding a license or certificate of authority, or allowing any person to use his or her license or certificate of authority, or diploma from any school;**

## **327.441 Denial, Revocation or Suspension of License**

**(8) Disciplinary action** against the holder of a license or a certificate of authority . . . granted **by another state**, territory, federal agency or **country upon grounds for which revocation or suspension is authorized in this state;**

**(9) A person is finally adjudged incapacitated or disabled by a court** of competent jurisdiction;

## **327.441 Denial, Revocation or Suspension of License**

**(10) Assisting or enabling any person to practice or offer to practice any profession licensed or regulated by this chapter who is not licensed and currently eligible to practice pursuant to this chapter;**

**(11) Issuance of a professional license or a certificate of authority based upon a material mistake of fact;**



## **327.441 Denial, Revocation or Suspension of License**

**(12) Failure to display a valid license or certificate of authority if so required by this chapter or any rule promulgated pursuant to this chapter;**

**(13) Violation of any professional trust or confidence;**

## **327.441 Denial, Revocation or Suspension of License**

**(14) Use of any advertisement or solicitation which is false, misleading or deceptive to the general public or persons to whom the advertisement or solicitation is primarily directed.**

## **327.441 Denial, Revocation or Suspension of License**

**3. . . . Upon a finding by the administrative hearing commission that the grounds . . . for disciplinary action are met, the board may . . . **.censure or place the person named in the complaint on probation** on such terms and conditions as the board deems appropriate for **a period not to exceed five years,****

## **327.441 Denial, Revocation or Suspension of License**

or may **suspend, for a period not to exceed three years**, or order a **civil penalty** under section **327.077**, or **revoke the license** or certificate of authority of the person named in the complaint.

# **No. 1 Ethics Violation**

## **Certificate of Authority**

## **No. 1 Ethics Violation**

**Certificate of Authority**

**Unlicensed practice of engineering by  
a Corporation or LLC (327.401)**

# **No. 1 Ethics Violation**

**Certificate of Authority**

**Unlicensed practice of engineering by  
a Corporation or LLC (327.401)**

**20 CSR 2030-2.010 (5) and (7) –  
comply with state laws and shall not  
assist non-licensees in unlawful  
practice**

# **No. 1 Ethics Violation**

**Certificate of Authority**

**Penalty**

**Self reporting – issued a probated  
Certificate of Authority with a Civil  
Penalty of past fees due.**



# **No. 1 Ethics Violation**

**Certificate of Authority**

## **Penalty**

Self reporting – issued a probated Certificate of Authority with a Civil Penalty of past fees due.

**Discovered while under investigation of other complaints – Civil Penalty of past fees due X 2**

# **No. 1 Ethics Violation**

**Certificate of Authority**

**Missouri**

**OK to solicit work without a C of A**

# **No. 1 Ethics Violation**

**Certificate of Authority**

**Missouri**

**OK to solicit work without a C of A**

**Oklahoma**

**C of A required to solicit work**

# **No. 2 Ethics Violation**

## **License Renewal**

**Have you been finally adjudicated and found guilty, or entered a plea or nolo contendere, in a criminal prosecution under the laws of this or any other state or of the United States whether or not sentence was imposed including suspended imposition of sentence, suspended execution of sentence and misdemeanor charges that you have not previously disclosed to this Board?**

**In any other licensing jurisdiction, have you been the subject of disciplinary action, or entered into any type of settlement agreement, providing for any limitation on your ability to practice, or monetary penalty or payment of costs that you have not previously disclosed to this Board?**

# **No. 2 Ethics Violation**

**License Renewal**

**Online renewal means checking a box  
yes or no.**

# No. 2 Ethics Violation

## License Renewal

Online renewal means checking a box  
yes or no.

**DO NOT CHECK NO IF THE ANSWER IS  
YES.**



# **No. 2 Ethics Violation**

## **License Renewal**

Online renewal means checking a box  
yes or no.

**DO NOT CHECK NO IF THE ANSWER IS  
YES.**

**We will find out through NCEES  
enforcement lists.**

# **No. 2 Ethics Violation**

**License Renewal**

**YES**

# **No. 2 Ethics Violation**

**License Renewal**

**YES** – Depending upon the crime, 327.441.2(2) is enforced; 327.441.2(8) is enforced for discipline in another jurisdiction.

# **No. 2 Ethics Violation**

## **License Renewal**

YES – Depending upon the crime, 327.441.2(2) is enforced; 327.441.2(8) is enforced for discipline in another jurisdiction.

**90% are issued only a notification letter.**

# **No. 2 Ethics Violation**

**License Renewal**

**NO** but the truth is **YES**

# **No. 2 Ethics Violation**

**License Renewal**

**NO** but the truth is **YES**

**Everything above holds true PLUS**

# **No. 2 Ethics Violation**

**License Renewal**

**NO** but the truth is **YES**

Everything above holds true PLUS

**Misrepresentation/fraud, violation of  
327.442.2(4,5) and**

**20 CSR 2030-2.010(3)**

# No. 2 Ethics Violation

## License Renewal

**NO** but the truth is **YES**

Everything above holds true PLUS

Misrepresentation/fraud, violation of  
327.442.2(4,5) and

20 CSR 2030-2.010(3)

**90% get disciplined with 1 year  
Probation of License**



# **No. 2 Ethics Violation**

**License Renewal**

**LWB, PE**

# **No. 2 Ethics Violation**

**License Renewal**

**LWB, PE**

**LWB notified the Board he had pled guilty to a Federal offense involving bribery in his role as Design Engineering Manager for the Public Works Department of a large city in Oklahoma.**

# **No. 2 Ethics Violation**

**License Renewal**

**LWB, PE**

**LWB was sentenced to 44 months in Federal prison and ordered to pay \$134,000 restoration of funds to the City.**

# **No. 2 Ethics Violation**

**License Renewal**

**LWB, PE**

**LWB's Missouri PE license was  
REVOKED.**

# **No. 2 Ethics Violation**

**License Renewal**

**LWB, PE**

**My friend and the Assistant Executive Director and Director of Enforcement for the Oklahoma Board, Bruce A. Pitts, PLS wrote about this case.**

# No. 2 Ethics Violation

License Renewal

LWB, PE

In his article he described the individual's attorney explaining his client had **"lost his moral compass"**, his sense of right and wrong.

# **No. 2 Ethics Violation**

**License Renewal**

**LWB, PE**

**Bruce writes “It has taken generations for professional engineers and professional land surveyors to create the level of public trust that they have been afforded.**

# **No. 2 Ethics Violation**

**License Renewal**

**LWB, PE**

**Unfortunately, years of competent and ethical conduct can be destroyed very quickly by one unethical decision.”**



# **Recent Felony Convictions Reviewed by the Board**

# **Moral Turpitude (involving minor children)**

Moral Turpitude (involving minor children)

**Financial Fraud**

Moral Turpitude (involving minor children)

Financial Fraud

**Felony DWI and Controlled Substance convictions**

Moral Turpitude (involving minor children)

Financial Fraud

Felony DWI and Controlled Substance convictions

**Murder**

**No. 3 Ethics Violation**  
**House Bill 600 (92<sup>nd</sup> General**  
**Assembly, July 1, 2003)**

**No. 3 Ethics Violation**  
**House Bill 600 (92<sup>nd</sup> General**  
**Assembly, July 1, 2003)**

**Individual and Business Professional**  
**License**

# **No. 3 Ethics Violation**

**House Bill 600 (92<sup>nd</sup> General  
Assembly, July 1, 2003)**

**Individual and Business Professional  
License**

**Non-payment of state income taxes**



**No. 3 Ethics Violation**  
**House Bill 600 (92<sup>nd</sup> General**  
**Assembly, July 1, 2003)**

Individual and Business Professional  
License

Non-payment of state income taxes

**Not filing all tax returns for preceding  
three years**

# **No. 3 Ethics Violation**

**House Bill 600 (92<sup>nd</sup> General  
Assembly, July 1, 2003)**

**Failure to pay within 90 days of  
notification of delinquent taxes due.**

**No. 3 Ethics Violation**  
**House Bill 600 (92<sup>nd</sup> General**  
**Assembly, July 1, 2003)**

Failure to pay within 90 days of  
notification of delinquent taxes due.

**IMMEDIATE AUTOMATIC SUSPENSION**

**No. 3 Ethics Violation**  
**House Bill 600 (92<sup>nd</sup> General**  
**Assembly, July 1, 2003)**

Failure to pay within 90 days of  
notification of delinquent taxes due.

**IMMEDIATE AUTOMATIC SUSPENSION**

**No appeal, no Board hearing**

**No. 3 Ethics Violation**  
**House Bill 600 (92<sup>nd</sup> General**  
**Assembly, July 1, 2003)**

Failure to pay within 90 days of  
notification of delinquent taxes due.

**IMMEDIATE AUTOMATIC SUSPENSION**

No appeal, no Board hearing

**Suspension ends upon presentation**  
**of DOR letter of compliance**

## **No. 4 Ethics Violation**

**Consulting engineering firm SE issued construction plans for a new medical center in rural Missouri in 2009**

## **No. 4 Ethics Violation**

Consulting engineering firm SE issued construction plans for a new medical center in rural Missouri in 2009

**In 2013 the new administrator of the medical center requested copies of the building drawings**

## **No.4 Ethics Violation**

**SE sent PDF copies of the plans as requested**

**The administrator requested AutoCad drawings**



## **No. 4 Ethics Violation**

**SE sent AutoCad files after receiving a release form signed by the administrator**

**The release form stated that documents are the property of the engineer and would not be reused for any purpose other than the original project**

## **No. 4 Ethics Violation**

**LA Consulting Engineers issued drawings for another rural medical center in Missouri in November 2013**

## **No. 4 Ethics Violation**

LA Consulting Engineers issued drawings for another rural medical center in Missouri in November 2013

**It appeared that some of the contents of the new drawings issued by L A were copied directly from the AutoCad files provided by SE.**

## **No. 4 Ethics Violation**

**SE filed a complaint against LA, noting that the project they did in 2009 followed 2003 building codes and the project LA did in 2013 followed 2009 building codes, but the details were copied and had not been changed to reflect changes in the codes**

## **No. 4 Ethics Violation**

**Possible violation of 327.441,**

**20 CSR 2030-2.010 and**

**20 CSR 2030-2.040**

## **No. 4 Ethics Violation**

Possible violation of 327.441,

20 CSR 2030-2.010 and

20 CSR 2030-2.040

**Fraud, deception, misrepresentation**

## **No. 4 Ethics Violation**

**LA met with the Board, after which the Board obtained additional information which led them to believe they were not truthful in the testimony to the Board**

## **No. 4 Ethics Violation**

**Complaint was passed onto the  
Attorney General to take to the  
Administrative Hearing Commission  
to seek the authority to place the  
PE license**

**ON PROBATION**



**Do Ethics ever change?**

**“Things change so fast, you can't  
use 1971 ethics on someone  
born in 1971.”**

Grace Slick (Jefferson Airplane)

**Ethics can change due to time  
and circumstances.**

**Part 6**

**The Ethics**

**of**

**Fishing**

**Now we will finish by  
talking about  
Fishing Ethics.**

**Remember our discussion on  
Ethics and Moral Dilemmas**













**The most ethical thing you can do as a grandparent is to teach a grandchild to fish.**

**Questions?**