

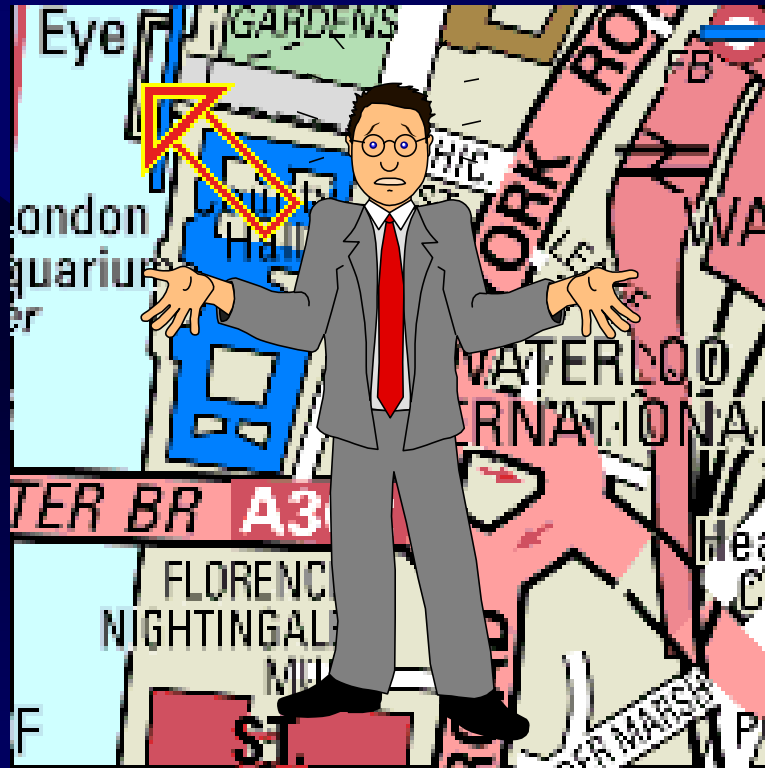
Ethical Perspectives from the Professions and Government

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What is Ethics Anyway?

- ◆ Fundamental
- ◆ Centering
- ◆ Aspirational
- ◆ Inspirational
- ◆ Practical
- ◆ Theoretical
- ◆ A Starting Point
- ◆ A Decision Point



“Universal” Ethical Principles

- ◆ RESPECT
- ◆ TRUST
- ◆ INTEGRITY
- ◆ TRUTHFULNESS
- ◆ HONESTY
- ◆ RELIABILITY
- ◆ IMPARTIALITY
- ◆ EMPATHY
- ◆ FAIRNESS
- ◆ PERSONAL DIGNITY

Systems for Comparison: Lawyer

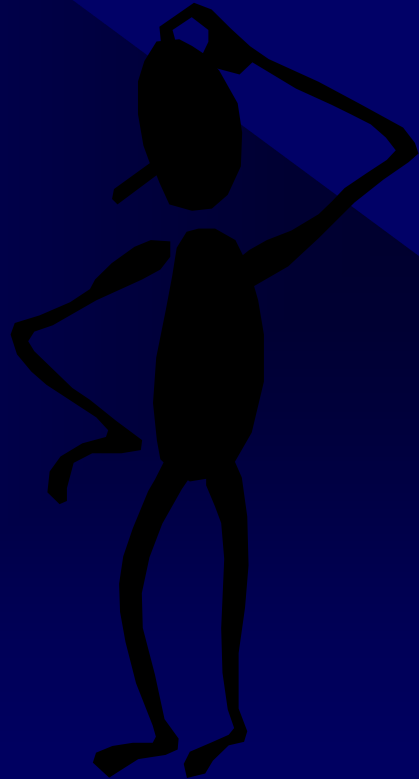
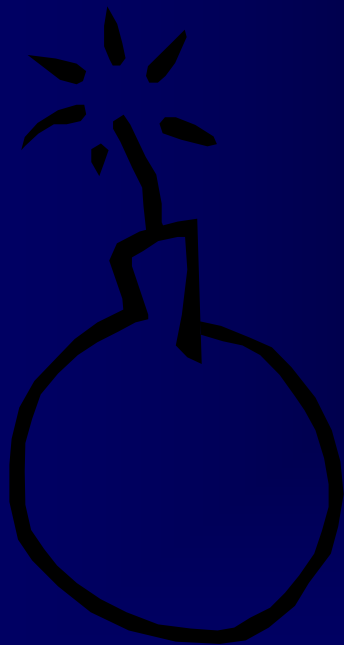
Roles of a Lawyer:

- ◆ representative of clients
- ◆ officer of the legal system
- ◆ public citizen

Some Duties of a Lawyer:

- ◆ Competence
- ◆ Diligence
- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Confidentiality
- ◆ Avoiding Conflict of Interest
- ◆ Candor and Honesty in Fact
- ◆ Self Regulation and Report
- ◆ Impartiality & Fair Advocacy

Ethics in Practice



One of the companies you represent is going public at the end of the month. But one of the key managers told you privately that the company is up to its ears in litigation over some patents, and expects an adverse decision next year. What do you do if your niece asks you if she should invest in the initial public offering?

Systems for Comparison: Government

Ethics in Government: 21 Keys:

- (1) The law, the Constitution, and the public's trust always trump personal opinion and personal interest.
- (2) Your position is important; use it in the service of the government, not your friends and not yourself.

Ethics in Government: 21 Keys

- (3) Personal financial or other interests that conflict with the conscientious performance of duty violate the public trust.
- (4) Avoid even the appearance of impropriety or partiality at all times.

Ethics in Government: 21 Keys

(5) Rationalizing is risky; instead, make decisions based on the importance of maintaining public trust in government.

Ethics in Government: 21 Keys

- (6) Nonpublic government information may not be used for any nongovernmental purpose.
- (7) Allowing others to use such information to further their private interests is just as wrong.

Ethics in Government: 21 Keys

- (8) Your influence is not for sale; do not use public office for private gain.
- (9) Accepting gifts, except those specifically allowed, invariably compromises you, even if only by perception.

Ethics in Government: 21 Keys

(10) Avoid outside employment or activities, including seeking or negotiating for employment, that conflict with your government duties and responsibilities.

Ethics in Government: 21 Keys

- (11) Make only authorized commitments or promises for your role and department.
- (12) Use government property and personnel for government purposes only.

Ethics in Government: 21 Keys

(13) Disclose waste, fraud, abuse, and corruption to appropriate authorities.

(14) Pay taxes, park and drive legally, vote, and otherwise act like a good citizen.

Ethics in Government: 21 Keys

(15) Accomplishing less than you can with the time and resources you have is wrong.

Ethics in Government: 21 Keys

- (16) Act impartially and do not give preferential treatment to any person or organization.
- (17) Respect other's right to equal opportunity regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap or other personal trait.

Ethics in Government: 21 Keys

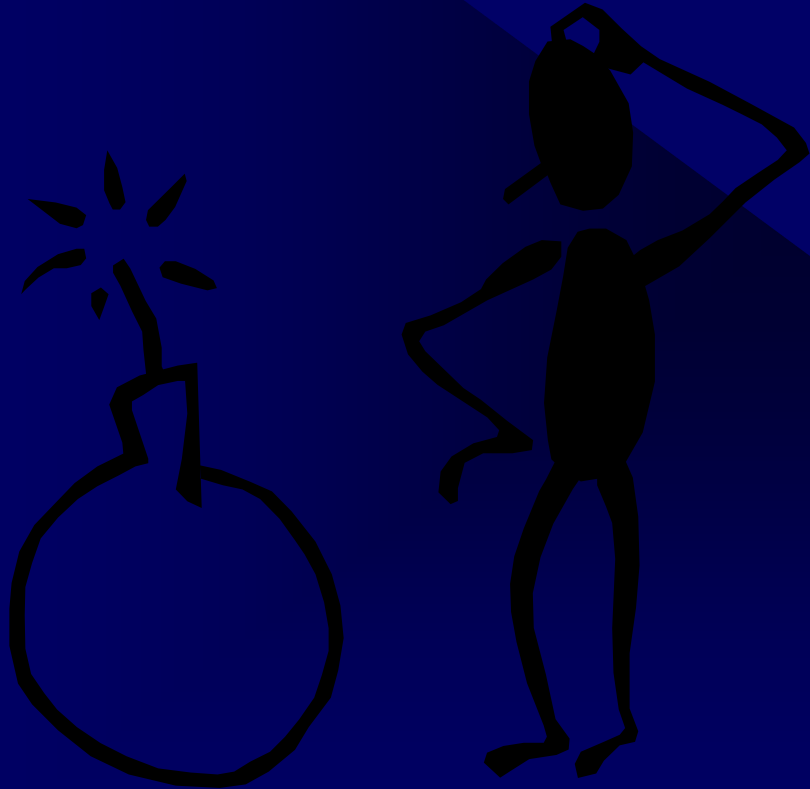
- (18) Guard your reputation -- and that of your department and government -- as most precious at all times.
- (19) Limit political and other free speech activities to your non-working hours.

Ethics in Government: 21 Keys

(20) Explain your choices, and lead others by your example.

(21) Grant respect and dignity at all times to those you work with, regulate, inspect and serve.

Ethics in Practice



You have worked in the same office and area for a long time. It is well known that Pat, a colleague, does not really work very hard, shows up late and leaves earlier than anyone else. It annoys you sometimes, but you are not his boss, and don't know what to do. Pat also spends a lot of the workday trading stocks on the internet and phone.

Relating to Science

How is the risk of failure in scientific research allocated, and what effects, if any, does that have on research findings?

Can we fairly liken some aspects of modern research funding system to the lawyers' contingent fee system?

Relating to Science

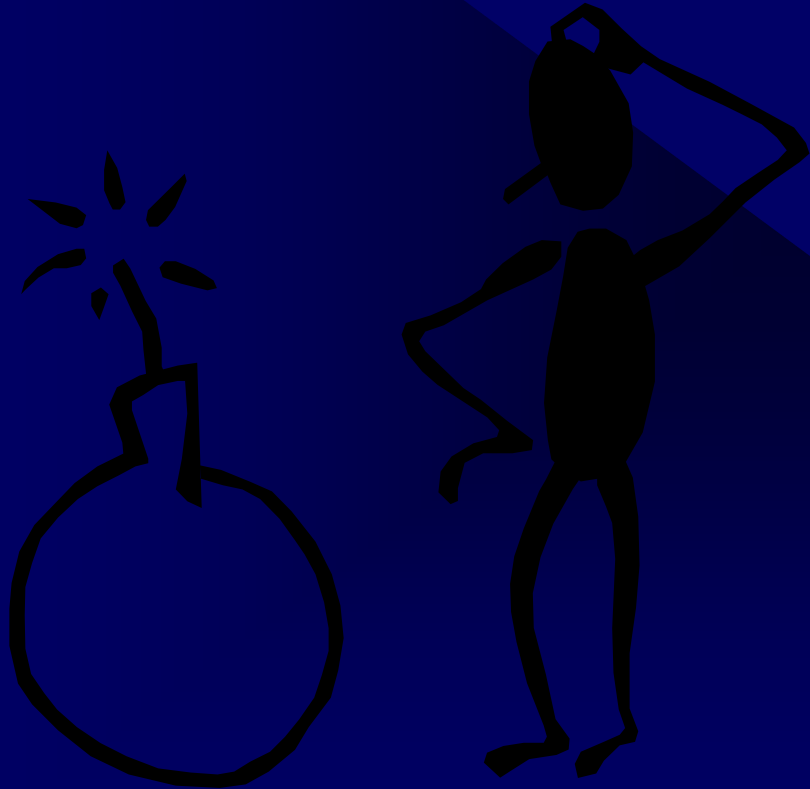
Are there disclosure duties that sometimes require sacrificing individual privacy or promised confidentiality?

When scientists are advocates, what duties are owed as citizens or to the public interest?

Relating to Science

When academic scientists profit personally from products of research are ethical questions implicated?

Ethics in Practice



A friend asks you to dinner. Over dinner, he asks you to help him through the funding process for a new research grant. He says he only needs a little guidance, “on filling out the forms and such.” He hints that he might be able to put you into the grant for some funding. At the end of the meal, he insists on paying.





Thank You!

