



ETHICS AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

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WHAT ARE ETHICS?

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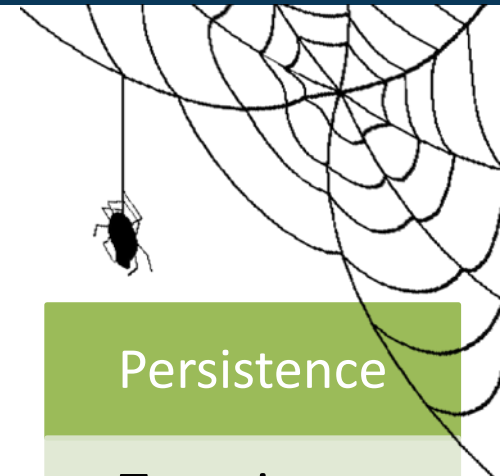
“I’d like you to do a presentation on business ethics. If you don’t have time to prepare something, just steal it off the Internet.”

THE ORIGIN OF ETHICS



<https://www.4PowerLeadership.com>

THE 4 POWER VIRTUES



Poise

- Dignity
- Temperance
- Humility

Presence

- Honesty
- Honor
- Learned

Performance

- Fortitude
- Justice
- Loyalty
- Prudence

Persistence

- Tenacity

<https://www.4PowerLeadership.com>

ASCE CODE OF ETHICS



1. Hold Safety
Paramount

2. Service with
Competence

3. Issue True
Statements

4. Act as a
Faithful Agent

5. Reputation
by Merit

6. Uphold
Professional
Honor

7. Continue
Professional
Development

8. Treat All
Persons Fairly

NSPE CODE OF ETHICS



1. Hold Safety
Paramount

2. Service with
Competence

3. Issue True
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4. Act as a
Faithful Agent

5. Reputation
by Merit

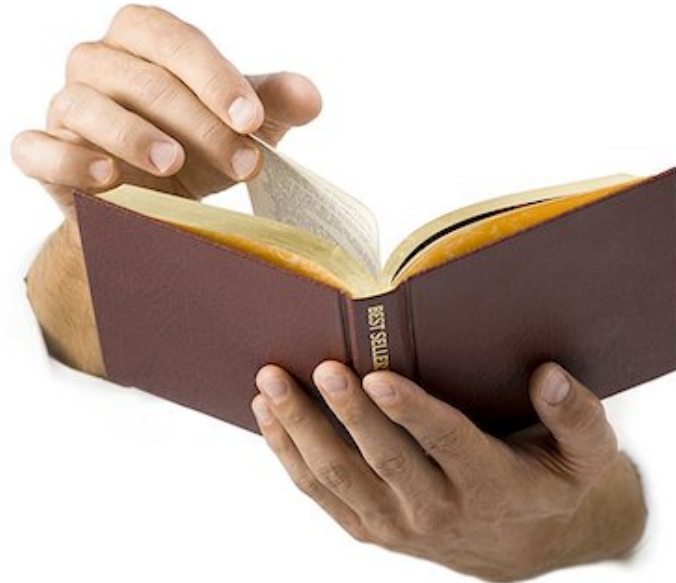
6. Uphold
Professional
Honor

OHIO LAW



Professional Engineers
Professional Surveyors

Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 4733-35: Code of Ethics for Engineers and Surveyors



OAC 4733-35



02 Integrity

03
Responsibility
to the Public

04 Public
Statements and
Certifications

05 Conflict of
Interest

06 Solicitation
of Employment

07 Improper
Conduct

08 Other
Jurisdiction

09 Records

OAC 4733-35



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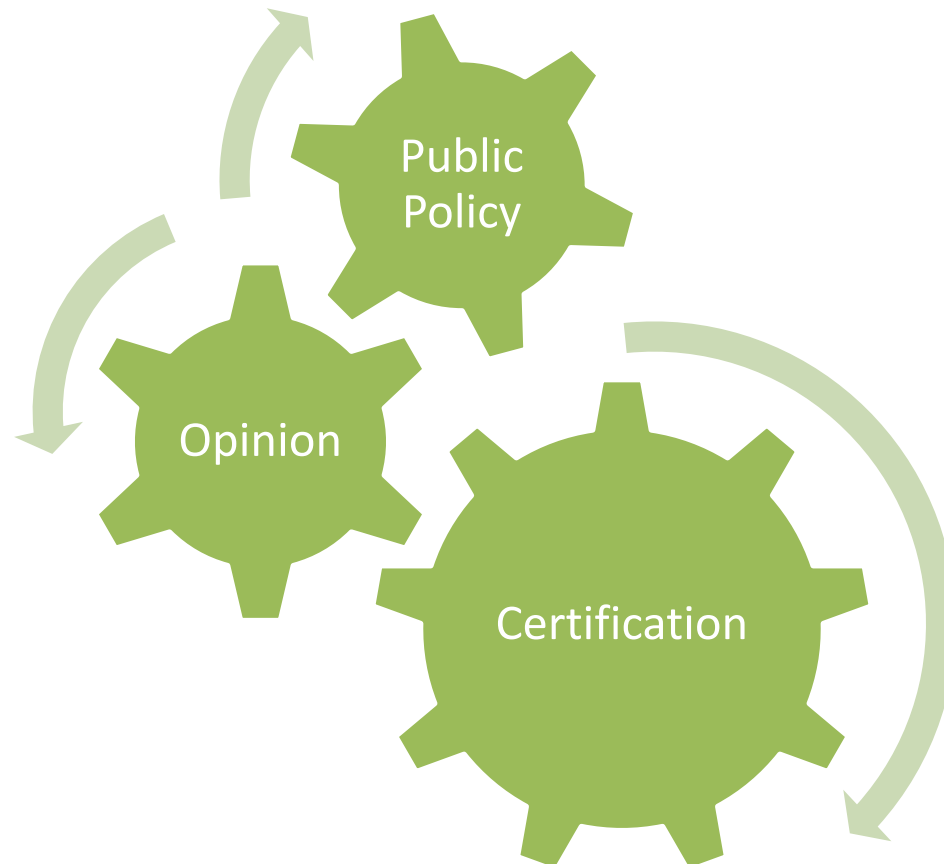
06 Solicitation
of Employment

07 Improper
Conduct

08 Other
Jurisdiction

09 Records

Public Statements and Certifications



PUBLIC POLICY

The engineer or surveyor will issue no statements, criticisms or arguments on engineering or surveying matters connected with public policy which are inspired or paid for by an interested party, or parties, unless the engineer or surveyor has prefaced his or her remarks by explicitly identifying himself or herself, by disclosing the identities of the party, or parties, on whose behalf the engineer or surveyor is speaking, and by revealing the existence of any pecuniary interest he or she may have in the instant matters.



OPINION

The engineer or surveyor will publicly express no opinion on an engineering or surveying subject unless it is founded upon adequate knowledge of the facts in issue, upon a background of technical competence in the subject matter, and upon honest conviction of the accuracy and propriety of his or her testimony.



CERTIFICATION

The engineer or surveyor shall decline to sign and/or seal any form of certification, warranty, or guaranty that:

- (1) Relates to matters beyond his or her technical competence,
- (2) Involves matters which are beyond the scope of services for which he or she was retained, or
- (3) Relates to engineering or surveying work for which he or she does not have personal professional knowledge and direct supervisory control and responsibility.



ETHICS AND PUBLIC TRUST

Trust is a relationship
between or among people

Purpose:
Facilitate
cooperative
social
interactions

Trust
involves
risk-taking

People trust
others
because
they judge
them to be
trustworthy

Trust can
generate
ethical and
legal duties

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3151305/>

ETHICAL DECISION-MAKING

1. State
the
problem

2. Check
the Facts

3. Identify
relevant
factors

4. Develop
a list of
options

5. Test the
options

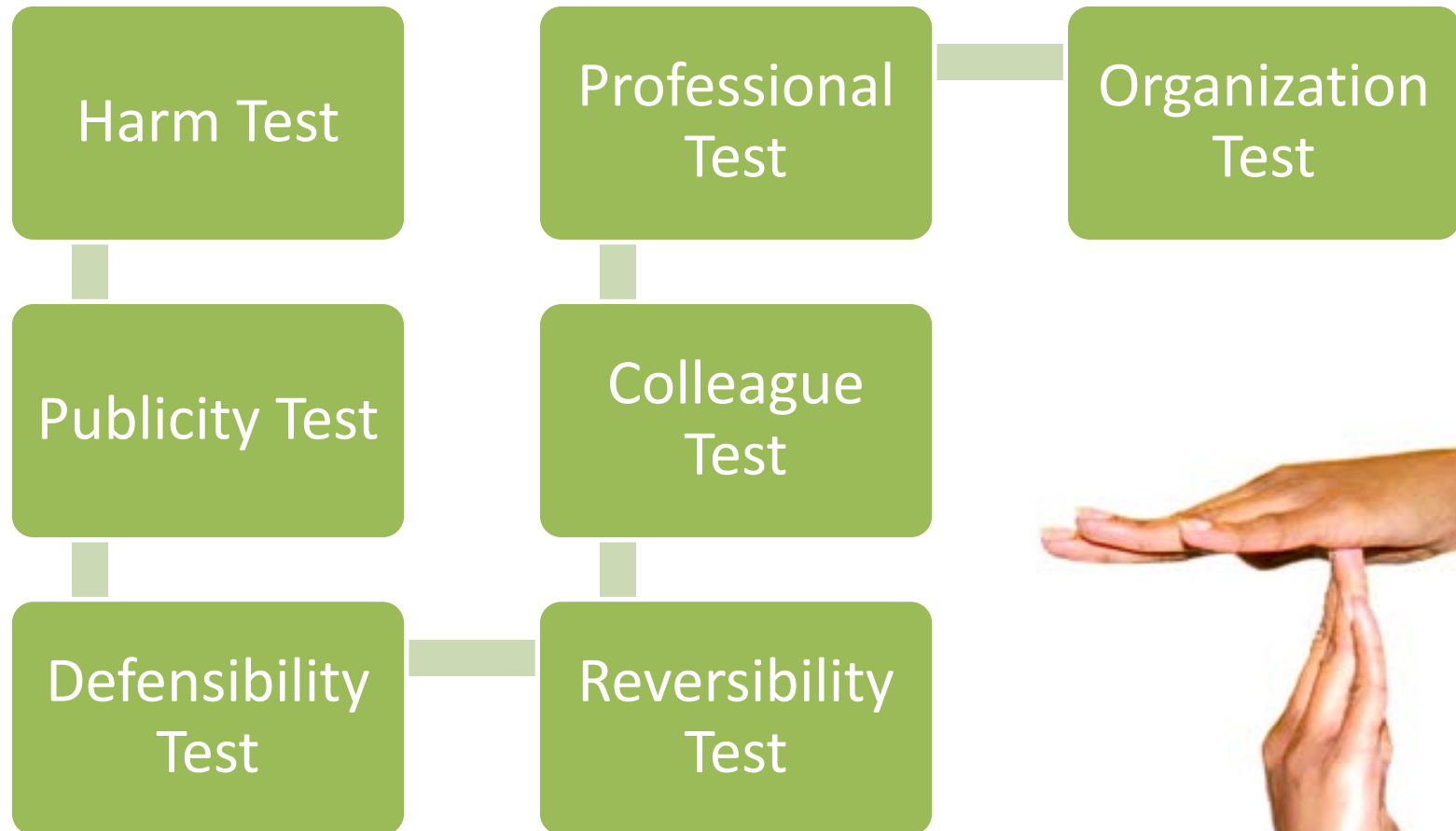
6. Make a
choice

7. Review
steps 1-6



Seven-step guide to ethical decision-making (Davis, M. (1999) Ethics and the university, New York: Routledge, p. 166-167

TEST THE OPTIONS



ETHICS AND SOCIAL MEDIA



PRIVACY



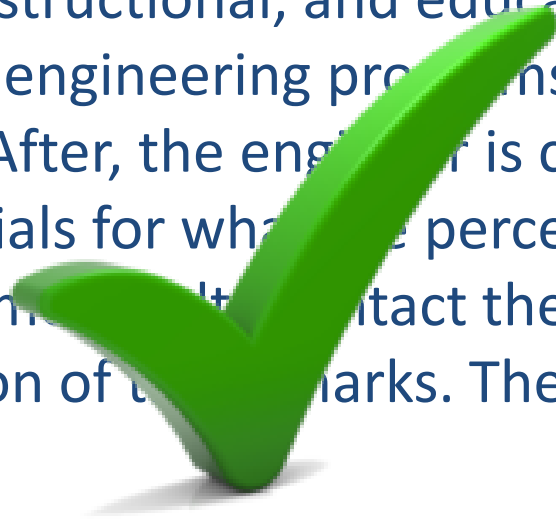
WHERE IS THE LINE?



<https://www.nspe.org/resources/ethics/ethics-resources/board-ethical-review-cases>

WHERE IS THE LINE?

An engineer, president of a professional engineering society, addresses engineers and engineering students at a college of engineering. During the engineer's presentation, he/she makes some general comments that could be interpreted as critical of certain research, instructional, and educational methods employed by some engineering programs including the program hosting the event. After, the engineer is criticized by some faculty and university officials for what is perceived as the engineer's critical remarks. Some faculty contact the engineer and request an apology or retraction of the remarks. The engineer refuses to issue an apology.



<https://www.nspe.org/resources/ethics/ethics-resources/board-ethical-review-cases/public-statements-engineering-society>

WHERE IS THE LINE?

I.3. Issue public statements only in an **objective and truthful** manner.

I.6. Conduct themselves **honorably, responsibly, ethically, and lawfully** so as to enhance the honor, reputation, and usefulness of the profession.

III.1.

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

III.7.

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

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

WHERE IS THE LINE?

A professional engineer reads a public online blog relating to a local construction project. The engineer strenuously disagrees with the view of the author of the blog and so writes a lengthy response to the online blog and includes coarse, abusive, and obscene language. The engineer includes his/her name along with his/her P.E. designation.



<https://www.nspe.org/resources/ethics/ethics-resources/board-ethical-review-cases/obligation-communicate-appropriate>

WHERE IS THE LINE?

I.6. Conduct themselves honorably, responsibly, ethically, and lawfully so as to enhance the honor, reputation, and usefulness of the profession.

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

III.2.c. Engineers are encouraged to extend public knowledge and appreciation of engineering and its achievements.

WHERE IS THE LINE?

A professional engineer participates on social media and sometimes provides engineering information, observations, and advice to engineering colleagues and members of the public.



<https://www.nspe.org/resources/ethics/ethics-resources/board-ethical-review-cases/advertising-non-inclusion-state>

WHERE IS THE LINE?

II.1.c. Engineers shall not reveal facts, data, or information without the prior **consent of the client or employer** except as authorized or required by law or this Code.

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

II.3.a. Engineers shall be **objective and truthful** in professional reports, statements, or testimony. They shall include all relevant and pertinent information in such reports, statements, or testimony, which should bear the date indicating when it was current.

II.3.b. Engineers may express publicly technical opinions that are **founded upon knowledge of the facts and competence in the subject matter.**

II.3.c. Engineers shall issue no statements, criticisms, or arguments on technical matters that are **inspired or paid for by interested parties**, unless they have prefaced their comments by explicitly identifying the interested parties on whose behalf they are speaking, and by revealing the existence of any interest the engineers may have in the matters.

III.2.a. **Engineers are encouraged to participate in civic affairs;** career guidance for youths; and work for the advancement of the safety, health, and well-being of their community.

III.2.c. **Engineers are encouraged to extend public knowledge** and appreciation of engineering and its achievements.

III.3.a. **Engineers shall avoid the use of statements containing a material misrepresentation of fact or omitting a material fact.**

REFERENCES

https://peps.ohio.gov/4733/4733_35.aspx

<https://www.asce.org/code-of-ethics/>

<https://www.asce.org/mead-student/>

<https://serc.carleton.edu/geoethics/>



QUESTIONS?

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