



KEY POINTS

A LEGAL RESEARCH NEWSLETTER FOR
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FROM WEST

Volume 27, Number 1
January/February 2009

Eileen Gonyeau, J.D., Editor
West
610 Opperman Dr.
Eagan, MN 55123-1396
(651) 687-5497
e-mail: eileen.gonyeau@thomson.com

For search assistance, call the
West Reference Attorneys at
1-800-REF-ATTY (1-800-733-2889)

For assistance using Westlaw, call
1-800-WESTLAW (1-800-937-8529)

For information on West, visit west.thomson.com

Advice from the Past

*"The best thing about the future is
that it comes only one day at a time."*

Abraham Lincoln

HOW TO FIND THE RULES FOR LAWYERS AND JUDGES

Whether one calls it legal ethics, professional responsibility, or judicial conduct, it amounts to the rules for lawyers and judges. You can find everything you need in this area of practice on Westlaw®.

Current Rules

If you need to brush up on the current rules of professional conduct for attorneys for the state in which your court sits, access the court rules database for that state (XX-RULES, where XX is the two-letter postal abbreviation for the state).

For example, to retrieve the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct, access the Illinois Court Rules database (IL-RULES) and search for the abbreviation *rpc* in the citation field (ci): **ci(rpc)**.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The abbreviations for a set of rules may vary from state to state. Check Scope for the relevant database for the correct abbreviation.

ABA Model Rules

If you want to compare the rule in a particular state with the American Bar Association (ABA) model rules, access the ABA Annotated Model Rules of Professional Conduct database (ABA-AMRPC) and search for the rule number in the caption field (ca), e.g., **ca(3.3)**.

To retrieve rules pertaining to a specific topic, search for your terms in the title field (ti), e.g., **ti(candor)**.

Opinions and Interpretations

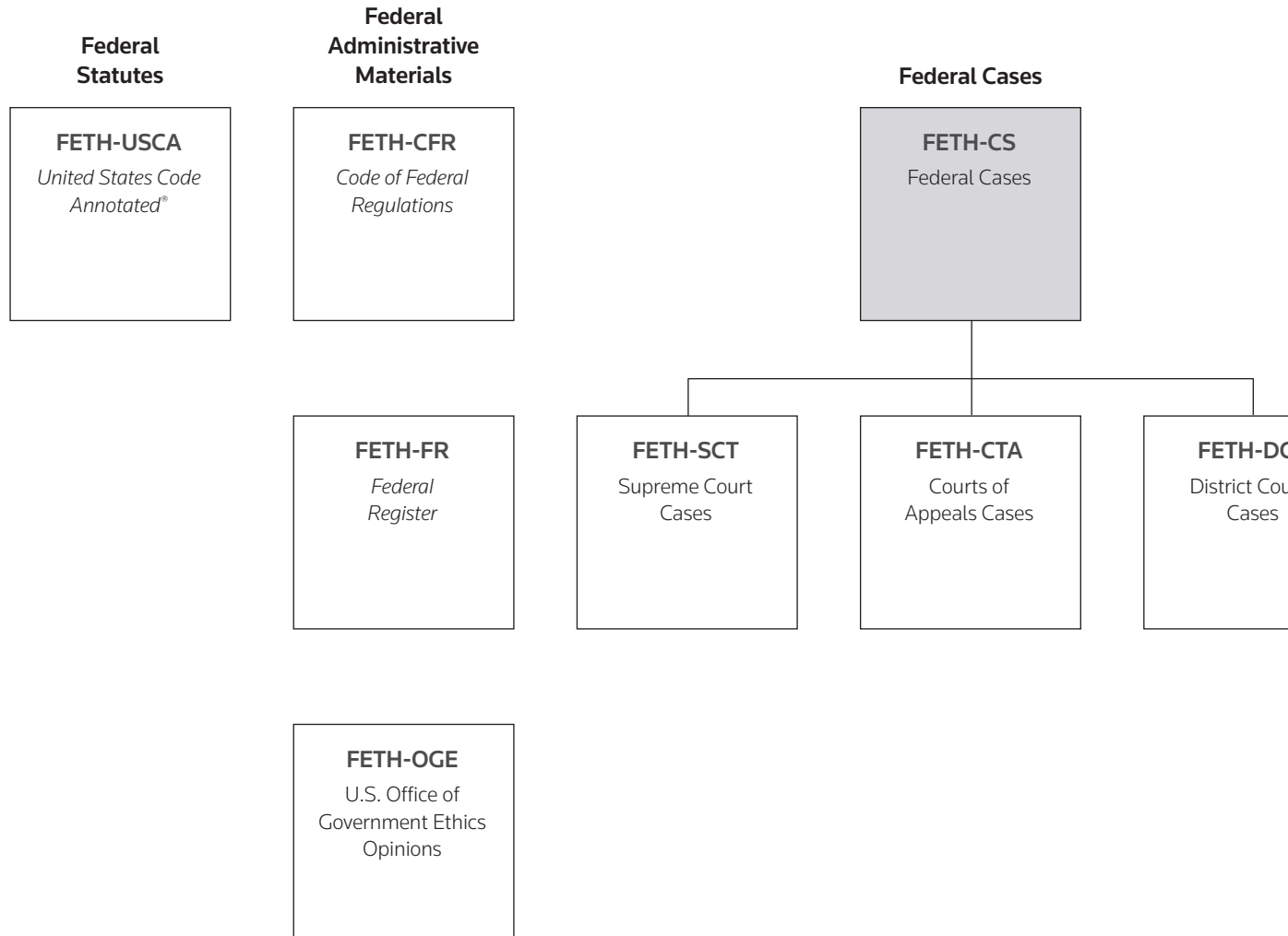
Many states have standing bodies that issue explanations of the various rules of conduct. For example, the California State Bar has a Standing Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct, whose opinions are contained in the California Legal Ethics and Professional Responsibility–Ethics Opinions database (CAETH-EO). To retrieve opinions that discuss communications by counsel, access CAETH-EO and type **ti(communicat! /p counsel)**.


To retrieve articles about ethics from the *ABA Journal*, which may also be helpful, access the ABA Journal database (ABAJ) and search for the abbreviation *eth* in the index field (in) and add relevant terms, e.g., **in(eth) & communicat! /p opposing /s party**.

For additional legal ethics and professional responsibility databases, see the chart of selected databases inside. You can also consult the Westlaw Directory. Click **Directory** at the top of any page. Click **Topical Practice Areas**; then click **Legal Ethics and Professional Responsibility**.



SELECTED MATERIALS: LEGAL ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY



 Combined database

*For individual states currently available, see the Westlaw Directory.



SIBILITY

**State Cases, Ethics
Opinions, and
Court Rules**

METH-CS
Multistate
Cases

METH-EO
Multistate
Ethics
Opinions*

RULES-ALL
State Court
Rules

**American Bar Association
(ABA) Materials**

ABA-ETHOP
ABA Ethics Opinions

AMBAR
ABA – Summaries

ABA-RLDE
ABA Model Rules
for Lawyer Disciplinary
Enforcement

ABA-AMRPC
ABA Annotated Model
Rules of Professional
Conduct

ABA-CJC
Code of Judicial
Conduct

ABA-BNA
ABA/BNA Lawyers’
Manual on
Professional
Conduct

ABA-SILS
ABA Standards for
Imposing Lawyer
Sanctions

ABA-RLFCP
ABA Model Rules for
Lawyers’ Funds for
Client Protection

ABA-MRPC
ABA Model Rules of
Professional Conduct

ABA-CJC-OLD
Code of Judicial
Conduct
(1972 and 1990
versions)

**Law Reviews,
Legal Texts, and
Periodicals**

ETH-TP
Law Reviews, Texts,
and Bar Journals

**Restatement of
the Law**

REST-LGOVL
*Restatement
of the Law
Third—The Law
Governing Lawyers*

**American Judicature Society
(AJS) Materials**

JCR
*Judicial Conduct
Reporter*



ADVANCED SEARCH TIP

Want a Table of Contents Online?

When you pick up a book, you often first check its table of contents to determine which chapters are relevant to your research.

On Westlaw, type a database name or identifier, e.g., **Federal Practice and Procedure** or **FPP**, in the *Search for a database* text box on a tabbed page.

At the database Search page, click **Table of Contents** at the top of the page (where available).

To browse a list of databases for which the Table of Contents service is available, click **Site Map** at the top of any page. Click **Table of Contents** under *Browse Westlaw*. Click the plus (+) and minus (-) symbols to browse the list of databases. Click a database name to display its table of contents.

Need More Copies of the Key Points Newsletter?

Please send me _____ additional FREE copies of the Key Points newsletter.

Name _____

Agency _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

You can also receive Key Points electronically. Just complete the subscription form found at west.thomson.com/signup/newsletters/4.aspx.