



# KEY POINTS

A LEGAL RESEARCH NEWSLETTER FOR STATE  
AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FROM WEST

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

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## 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

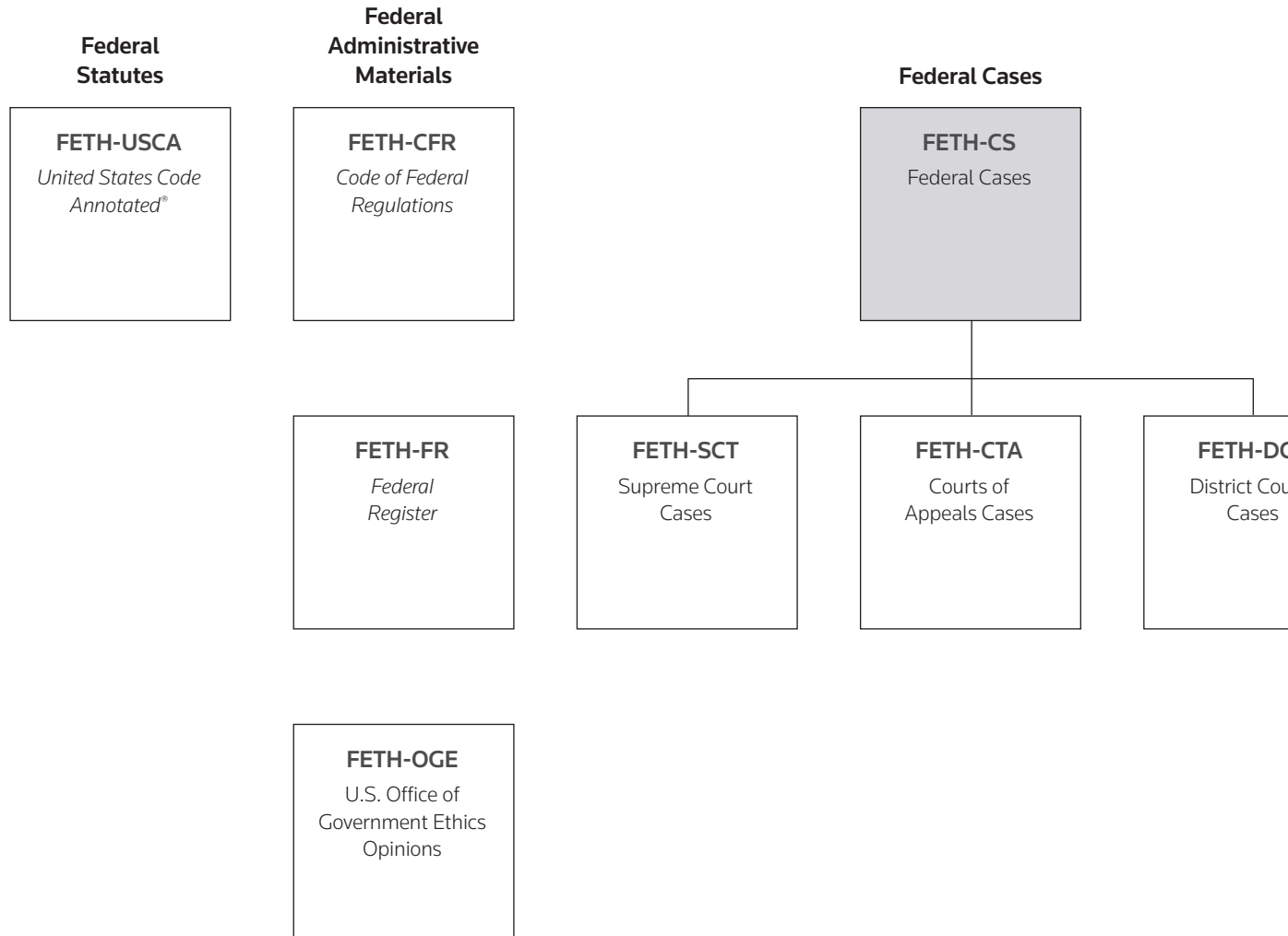
Many states have standing bodies that issue explanations of the various rules of conduct. For example, the California State Bar has a Standing Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct, whose opinions are contained in the California Legal Ethics and Professional Responsibility–Ethics Opinions 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**.

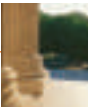


# SELECTED MATERIALS: LEGAL ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY



 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.

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