LEGAL ETHICS ADVICE FOR IN-HOUSE COUNSEL AT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

In-house counsel at educational institutions have the challenging job of serving the needs of multiple constituents with different roles and sometimes different interests. Questions regularly arise: Who is the counsel's client? Are there conflicts of interest among the various constituents? What are the best practices for addressing conflicts? When should separate counsel be engaged? How can counsel maintain attorney-client and work product privileges among working groups? And the questions go on. A thorough understanding of what educational counsel may or may not ethically do on behalf of their clients or client representatives is therefore essential.

EXPERIENCED REPRESENTATION YOU CAN DEPEND ON

Holland & Knight's Lawyer Ethics, Risk Management and Regulation Team advises educational institutions and other governmental and private legal departments on a wide array of issues arising from conflicts, privileges and ethics, such as:

- preparing policies regarding the roles to be served by in-house counsel
- protecting and proactively using attorney-client and work product privileges
- identifying apparent conflicts that may arise within an organization
- addressing conflicts that may arise from relationships with institutional affiliates, including for-profit affiliates
- conducting or advising on the conduct of internal investigations
- conducting confidential document reviews, including documents that may be subject to third-party claims of confidentiality
- fulfilling the duty to report matters "up the ladder"
- addressing the full range of "social networking" issues

CLE OPPORTUNITIES

Our seasoned team of attorneys also provides confidential ethics CLEs for in-house legal departments that are customized to meet counsel's specific needs and that can therefore focus directly on the issues of greatest concern to those counsel. In most jurisdictions, ethics CLE credit can be obtained.

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