

CANONS OF ETHICS IN ENGINEERING BUSINESS THE LEGAL PERSPECTIVE

By:

Dr. Corazon Aguilar-David, LIB., MPS

Local and International Speaker

Contact: 0905-3230-124

Why seminar on ethics?

- ▣ Engineering is one among the important professions for it has a direct and vital impact on the quality of life of the people. In view thereof, services of engineers require core values of HONESTY, IMPARTIALITY, FAIRNESS, OBJECTIVITY AND EQUITY.
- ▣ In pursuit thereto, they must protect and promote public health, public safety and public welfare.
- ▣ In order to realize the foregoing core values, engineers must perform under a standard of professional behavior that requires adherence to the highest principles of ethical conduct.

LEGAL BASIS OF ENGINEERING ETHICS

- ▣ 1. The Corporation Code of the Philippines- On licensing of business/ shares of stocks/ liquidations.
- ▣ 2. The 1987 Philippine Constitution-the encouragement of private persons in nation building.
- ▣ 3. The Civil Code of the Philippines –Article 19/ unjust enrichment and unfair competition.
- ▣ 4.RPC-The Revised penal Code on Libel and forgeries of licenses

ETHICAL ISSUES IN ENGINEERING BUSINESS

- ▣ 1. Preventing discrimination, harassment or bullying;
- ▣ 2. Avoiding bribery, corruption and facilitation payments;
- ▣ 3. Health, safety and welfare of workers and the public;

ETHICAL ISSUES IN ENGINEERING BUSINESS

- ▣ 4. Dealing with conflicts of interest;
- ▣ 5. Fair and honest quotes and costing(realistic cost estimates);
- ▣ 6. Preventing and controlling pollution(keep within environment regulation);

ISSUES IN ENGINEERING BUSINESS

- ▣ 7. Security of Information;
- ▣ 8. Appropriate handling of intellectual property;
- ▣ 9. Addressing human rights issues;(right to shelter);
- ▣ 10.Ensuring ethical standards through the supply chain;

ETHICAL ISSUES...

- ▣ 11. Cross- cultural issues;
- ▣ 12. Working within Competencies.

ADDRESSING ISSUES IN ENGINEERING ENTERPRISE

- ▣ 1. Be delighted in the success of other engineering company/ Avoid harassment. Otherwise RA 10175 The Anti-Cyber crime Law will work against you.
- ▣ 2. Let payment or collection processed in its due course.(otherwise, Criminal case of bribery or corruption of official will apply.)

Addressing issues...

- ▣ 3. Maximize health and safety measures(use of mask/ hard cap, etc.-otherwise, accidental death with negligence will make you liable criminally for homicide/ work connected decease).
- ▣ 4. Do not enter into a contract where you have personal and financial gains –otherwise, you will be violating the basic principle of “ Conflict of interest” in Government, purchases of construction materials within the 4th civil degree of consanguinity or affinity is prohibited.

Addressing issues..

- ▣ 5. Engage in legal bidding. Otherwise, it may cause the cancellation of contract due to unconscionable quotes of costing(Civil Code on Damages.)
- ▣ 6. Be part of government environment environmental protection. Avoid water or air pollution.

Addressing issues..

- ▣ 7. Never share with competitors any information detrimental to the sound financial standing of the employer in government, there are cases filed in court for “ infidelity in the custody of public document.
- ▣ 8. Do not adopt other engineering company’s intellectual property right like exclusiveness of Company’s name.

Addressing issues..

- ▣ 9. Never dismantle informal settlers' homes unless there is a court order of " Execution".
- ▣ 10. Never go for substandard supply to the detriment of quality service. Standard provision of service is non-negotiable. In case of collapse of structures, criminal liability may be filed.

Addressing issues..

- ▣ 11. Consider the unique needs of people affected in engineering works. To aeta people, land is life..
- ▣ 12. Upgrade your profession to enhance competence and upgrading of engineering programs of work.

In a nut shell.. Basic ethics in engineering business is as follows:

- ▣ 1. Hold paramount the safety , health and welfare of the public(on the verge of collapse building)
- ▣ 2. perform services only in areas of competence(plumbing is for plumber).
- ▣ 3. Issue public statements only in objective and truthful manner(size of steel materials).

Nutshell..

- ▣ 4. Act for each employer or client as faithful agents of trustees.
- ▣ 5. Avoid deceptive acts.
- ▣ 6. Conduct themselves honorably, responsibly, ethically, and lawfully so as to enhance the trust of the public in engineering enterprise and usefulness of the profession.

Nutshell..

- ▣ 7. Engineers shall notify their employer any danger that may pose to public.
- ▣ 8. Engineers shall approve program of works that are in conformity with applicable standards as if you they are the very ones who will occupy the edifice.

- ▣ 9. Engineers shall undertake assignments only when qualified by education or experience in the specific technical fields.

- ▣ 10. They shall continue their professional development and should keep current in their specialty fields like attending professional meetings and seminars.

- ▣ 10. Engineers shall not reveal facts, data or information without the proper consent of the employer or client.
- ▣ 11. They shall not permit the use of their name or associate in business ventures with any person that they believe is engaged in fraudulent or dishonest business.

- ▣ 12. They shall be truthful in professional statements. Include all relevant and pertinent information in such reports or statements.
- ▣ 13. Engineers shall not accept compensation, financial or otherwise from more than one party for services on the same project unless such is fully disclosed and agreed to by all the interested parties.

- ▣ 14. Shall not solicit or accept a contract from the government on which a principal officer of their organization / group serves as a member.

- ▣ 15. Shall not misrepresent facts concerning employers, employees , associates, joint ventures or past accomplishments.

- ▣ 16. Shall not offer, give, solicit, or received any contribution to influence the award of a contract.
- ▣ 17. Shall acknowledge errors and shall not alter nor distort facts.
- ▣ 18. Shall not accept outside employment to the detriment of their regular work.

- ▣ 19. Shall not attempt to attract an engineer from another employer/associates by false or misleading pretenses.
- ▣ 20. Shall not promote their own interest at the expense of the dignity and integrity of the profession/calling.

- ▣ 21. Shall conform with the government registration laws in the practice of engineering.

- ▣ 22. Shall not attempt to injure maliciously or falsely the professional reputation, prospects, practice, or employment of other engineers(will cause the revocation of license).

▣ 23. Shall not, without consent, use equipment, supplies, laboratory, or facilities of an employer, client, to carry on outside private practice.

Take home message

- ▣ **“ The task of Engineering Business Managers is to make sure that their firm survives, endures and prosper in a competitive environment .”**
- ▣ **-Dr. Corazon Aguilar-David**

Take home message

- ▣ **“ It is necessary to explore ethics in every business ventures.. And if you do, you will notice that your enterprise is like a tree that bear fruits heavily-ladden.”**
- ▣ **-Dr. Corazon Aguilar-David,LL.B**

- ▣ **My friends, my heart is full of gratitude for meeting you all in the flesh and gave me this wonderful opportunity to share my thoughts on ethics and values in engineering enterprise!!**
- ▣ **Sa inyo pong lahat, ako'y taos pusong nagpapasalamat..**
- ▣ **Until our next encounter!!**