July 2021 • Nevada Lawyer

One Hour of ETHICS CLE Credit Test 68

Ethical Considerations for Government Lawyers

Please complete the following quiz by selecting the most accurate response/answer to the statements and questions below:

- 1. A prosecutor's job is to convict.
 - a. True
- b. False
- 2. In addition to RPC 3.8, a prosecutor's ethical duties are further delineated:
 - a. in statute.
 - b. in case law.
 - c. by national prosecution standards.
 - d. all of the above.
- 3. Prosecutorial misconduct:
 - a. can undermine public confidence in government and the justice system.
 - b. occurs when a prosecutor knowingly or recklessly violates ethical standards.
 - c. denies a defendant a fair trial.
 - d. all of the above.
- 4. Prosecutorial discretion is the power to decide whether someone lives or dies.
 - a. True
- b. False
- 5. RPC 3.8:
 - a. requires that a prosecutor refrain from prosecuting a charge not supported by proof beyond a reasonable doubt.
 - b. requires that a prosecutor ensure that the Eighth Amendment prohibition on cruel and unusual punishments is not violated.
 - c. prohibits a prosecutor from seeking a waiver of preliminary hearings or other important pretrial rights from an unrepresented accused.
 - d. all of the above.
- 6. The *Brady* rule is codified in RPC 3.8(d).
 - a. True
- b. False
- 7. The prosecutor has a specific obligation:
 - a. to see that the defendant is accorded procedural justice.
 - b. to see that guilt is decided upon the basis of sufficient evidence.
 - c. to see that precautions are taken to prevent and to rectify the conviction of innocent persons.
 - d. all of the above.
- 8. Subsections (g) and (h) of the ABA Model Rule 3.8 have not been adopted in Nevada.
 - a. True
- b. False
- 9. A systematic abuse of prosecutorial discretion could constitute a violation of Rule 5.4.
 - a. True
- b. False

- 10. The prohibition on extrajudicial statements:
 - a. prohibits any statements by a prosecutor in a criminal proceeding likely to increase public condemnation of the accused
 - b. is aimed at extrajudicial statements that can violate the right to a fair trial.
 - c. extends to any person assisting the prosecution in a case.
 - d. all of the above.
- 11. Information that may be appropriate for disclosure in a criminal prosecution includes:
 - a. whether the accused has committed acts of moral turpitude.
 - b. if the accused has not been apprehended, information necessary to aid in apprehension.
 - c. whether the accused waived his or her Miranda rights.
 - d. all of the above.
- 12. Subjects that "are more likely than not to have a material prejudicial effect on a criminal proceeding" include:
 - a. the reputation of a suspect.
 - b. the possibility of a guilty plea.
 - c. the existence of a confession.
 - d. all of the above.
- 13. RPC 1.13 applies to the representation of governmental entities.
 - a. True
- b. False
- 14. In Nevada, a government attorney has an affirmative duty:
 - a. to disclose to any elected official an attorney represents whether or not the attorney voted for that official.
 - b. to refrain from representing a government official that is not of the same political party as the attorney.
 - c. to communicate to each government official with whom he or she has an immediate attorney-client relationship that the client is the government entity, not the official.
 - d. all of the above.
- 15. In Nevada, a government attorney has a special responsibility under RPC 1.13(f).
 - a. True
- b. False
- 16. In Nevada, a government attorney may represent a government official as a private citizen:
 - a. only if the act or omission on which the action is based was clearly not within the course and scope of the government official's public duty.
 - b. only if the government official is a defendant in a criminal prosecution.
 - c. only if the attorney has a good faith belief that providing representation is in the best interests of the public.
 - d. none of the above.

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- 17. A government attorney must carefully balance the public's right to access with any legal or ethical constraints on his or her ability to disclose information or otherwise engage in public discourse.
 - a. True
- b. False
- 18. A government attorney has no authority to question the conduct of elected officials since voters hold elected officials accountable.
 - a. True
- b. False

- 19. The disqualification of government lawyers based on a conflict of interest is governed by:
 - a. RPC 1.10
 - b. RPC 1.11
 - c. there are no specific rules addressing the disqualification of government lawyers based on a conflict of interest.
 - d. none of the above.
- 20. The appearance of impropriety is the appropriate standard for determining whether an individual attorney's conflict should be imputed to an entire office of government attorneys.

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- a. True
- b. False

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THREE EASY STEPS TO CLE CREDIT - \$45

- 1) Read the article on pages 24-26
- 2) Answer the quiz questions on page 27-28. Each question has only one correct answer.
- 3) Send completed guiz along with this form and \$45 processing fee.

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