

Questions & Answers
Professional Responsibility

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Questions & Answers
Professional Responsibility

FOURTH EDITION

*Multiple-Choice and Short-Answer
Questions and Answers*

Patrick Emery Longan

WILLIAM AUGUSTUS BOOTLE CHAIR IN ETHICS AND
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Preface

This all-new Fourth Edition makes some significant changes from prior editions. First and foremost, the organization and emphasis of the book now mirrors the organization and emphasis of the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam (MPRE). The multiple-choice questions are written in the same format as the MPRE questions (the MPRE is entirely multiple choice), and the questions are approximately the same length and difficulty as the questions you will face on the MPRE. You should find the book to be a useful tool in your preparation and practice for the MPRE.

The book is also intended, of course, to help you in your required Professional Responsibility course. It is not a substitute for the materials assigned by your professor, nor is it a “short course” on Professional Responsibility. It is intended rather to enable you to test your understanding and adapt your study strategies accordingly. You may want to use the book at several discrete intervals during the semester. For example, once you have studied conflicts of interest, it would be a good time to review that material and then use the book to test your command of that subject. You should then have a good idea about the strengths and weaknesses of your understanding as the semester goes on and the final exam approaches.

Regardless of how you use the book, for the MPRE, for your Professional Responsibility course, or both, it will be most useful if you study the applicable Model Rules of Professional Conduct or the applicable provisions of the Model Code of Judicial Conduct before attempting to answer the questions. You will find the official comments to these various rules to be essential reading as well. Read the questions carefully and attempt to answer them before you read the suggested answer. You will learn much more from that active endeavor than you will from the passive exercise of reading the question and then flipping to the suggested answer.

The questions and answers in this book are based upon the American Bar Association’s Model Rules of Professional Conduct and the ABA’s Model Code of Judicial Conduct. Your state’s rules for lawyers and judges will differ somewhat from these, but the model provisions have proven to be quite influential in the development of many states’ rules. The questions and answers in this book reflect the text and interpretations of the Model Rules and Model Code as of May 1, 2017.

I wish you well as you undertake the study of your responsibilities as a member of your chosen profession and as you prepare to pass the MPRE, the next step on the journey to the beginning of your legal career.

Patrick Longan
Macon, Georgia
May, 2017

About the Author

Patrick Emery Longan holds the William Augustus Bootle Chair in Ethics and Professionalism in the Practice of Law at the Mercer University School of Law and is the Director of the Mercer Center for Legal Ethics and Professionalism. Professor Longan is a 1983 graduate of the University of Chicago Law School, which he attended after obtaining his undergraduate degree from Washington University in St. Louis and his master's degree in economics from the University of Sussex. Upon his graduation from law school, Professor Longan clerked for Bernard M. Decker, Senior United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois. He practiced law for seven years and became a full-time law teacher in 1991. In his academic career, Professor Longan has taught at Southern Methodist University School of Law, Stetson University College of Law, the University of Florida College of Law, Charleston School of Law, John Marshall (Atlanta) Law School, Georgia State University College of Law, and Mercer University School of Law. Professor Longan lives in Macon, Georgia with his wife, Gretchen.

