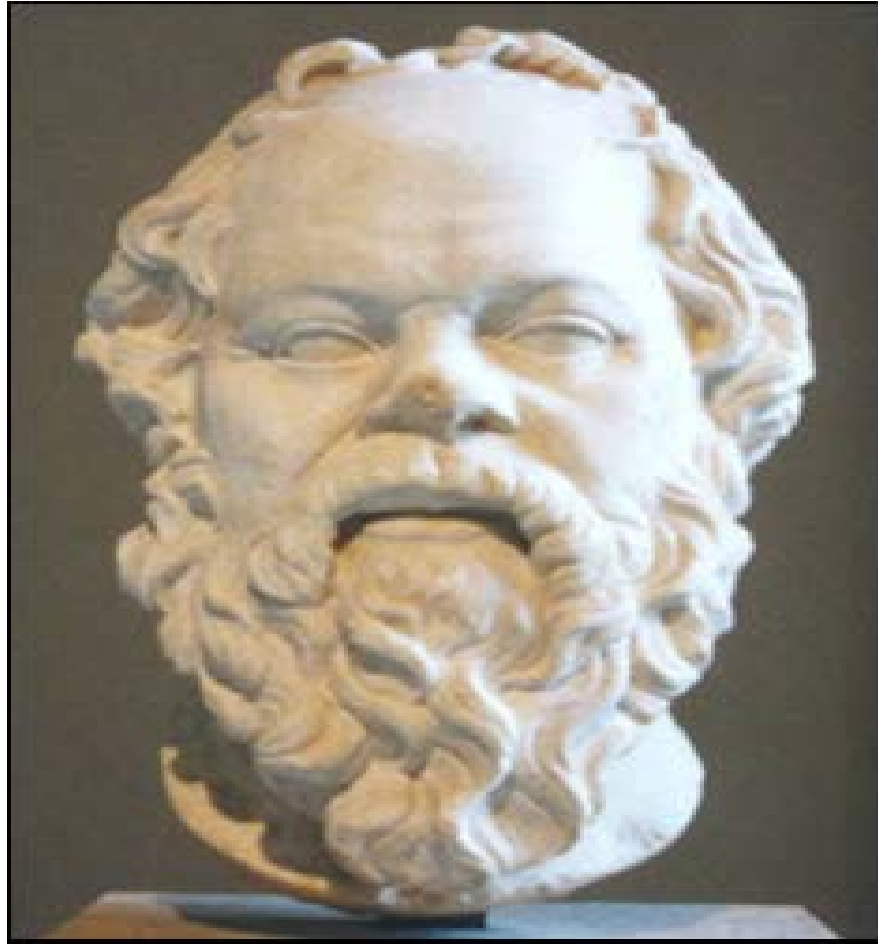


PROFESSIONAL ETHICS FOR ENGINEERS



James Monge
January 10, 2017

Socrates



What is ethics?

- Defines right and wrong
- Moral Principles that governs a groups' behavior
- What is the best way to live?
- Happiness
- Not always black and white

How do we know what is ethical?

- God and religion
- Human conscience
- Moral cost/benefit analysis of actions and consequences
- Role models
- Laws, rules, codes of ethics



Engineering Ethics

"Engineering ethics is (1) the study of moral issues and decisions confronting individuals and organizations involved in engineering, and (2) the study of related questions about moral conduct, character, ideals and relationships of peoples and organizations involved in technological development." - Martin and Schinzinger, Ethics in Engineering.



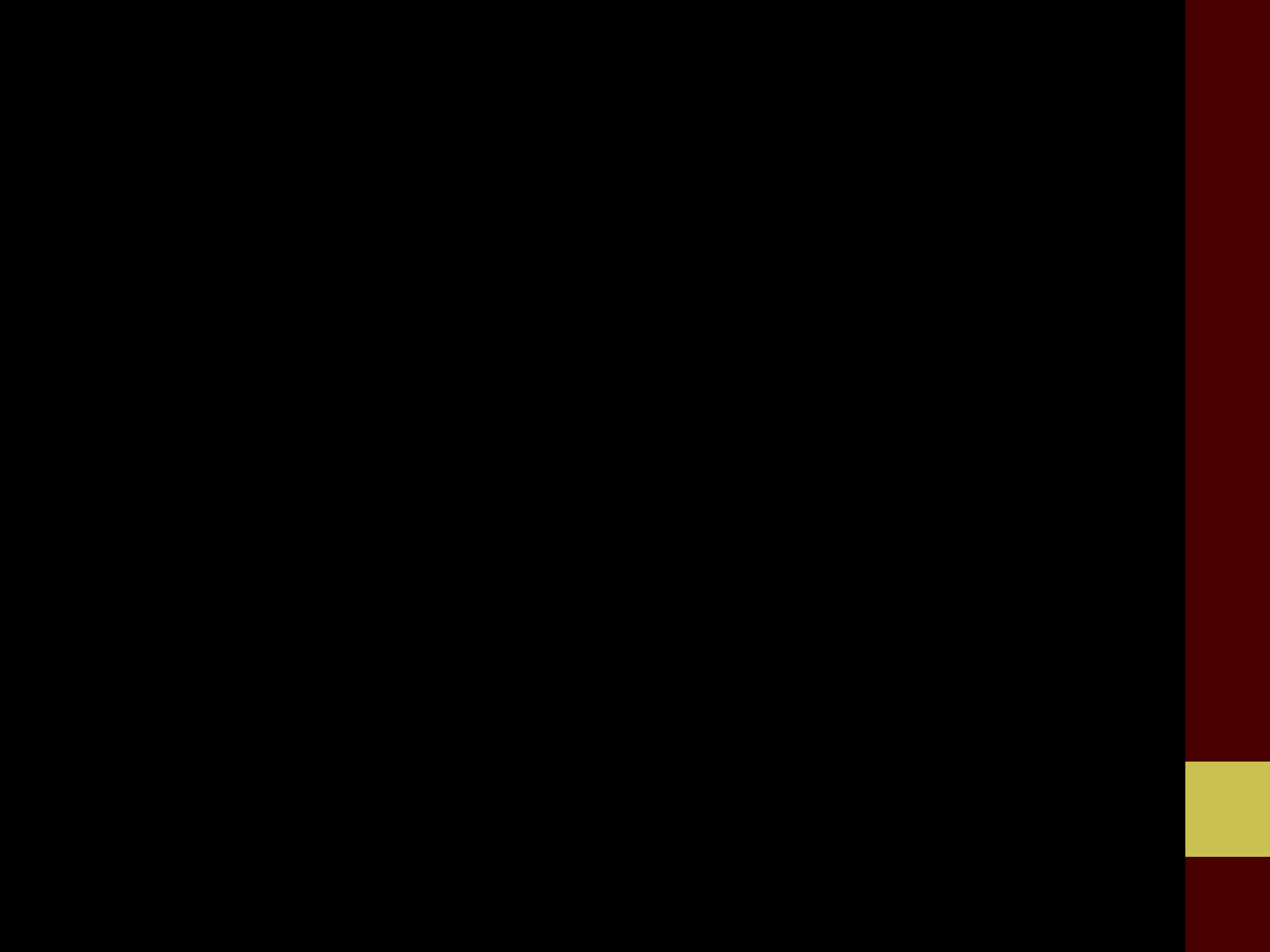
Engineering Ethics

"The application of engineering ethics provides a consensus on the morality of engineering decisions and defines guidelines for moral conduct by all engineering professionals. Such guidelines are partially based on ethical codes developed by engineering societies, most notably the National Society of Professional Engineers, so as to maintain the aura of professionalism throughout the engineering discipline. Codes of ethics also may encourage engineers to behave in a manner that benefits both the profession and society. Above all else, engineering professionals are in service to society, and so it is implicit in both the ethical codes and engineering ethics, that the public good should be placed above the personal interest of engineers."



Guidelines for Practicing within Minnesota's Statutes and Rules







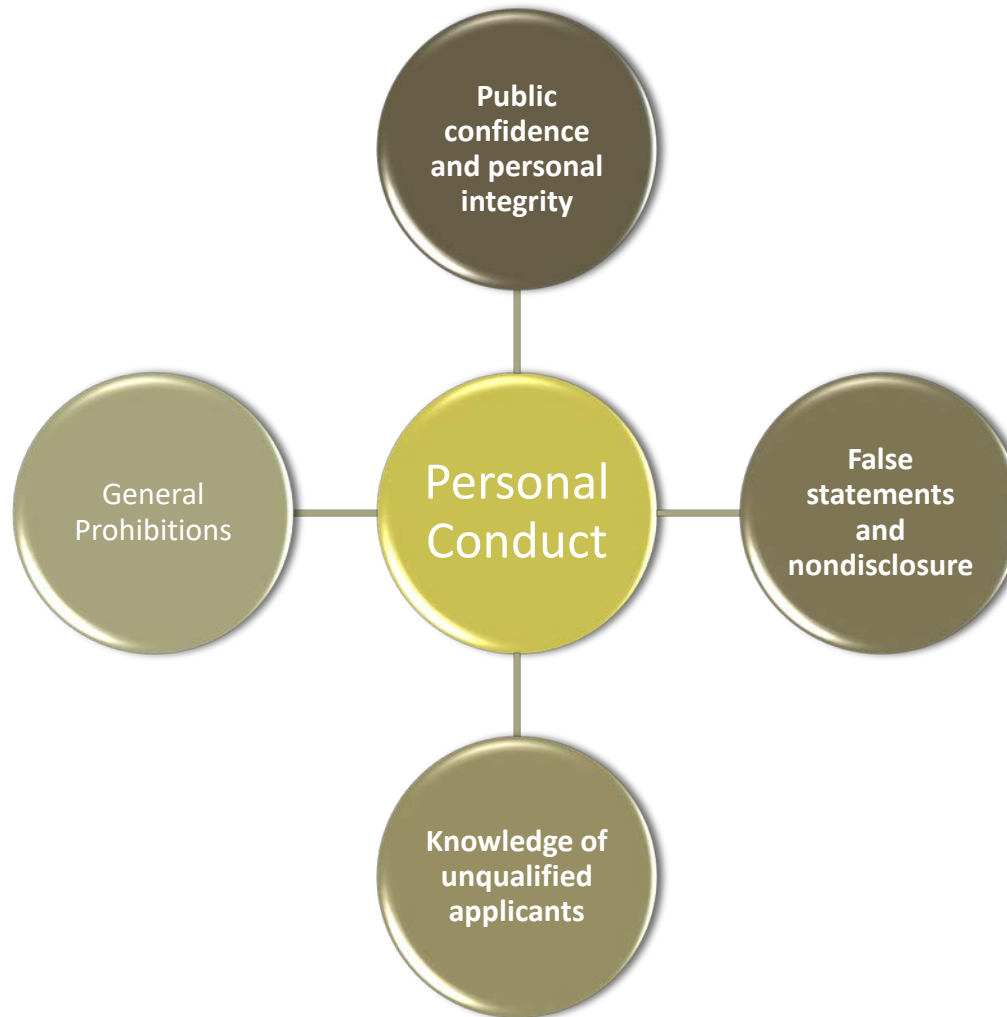
Learn the Rules:

You're responsible for following them,
whether you know them or not.



Rules of Personal Conduct

Rule 1805.0200





General Prohibitions

circumvent a rule

illegal conduct /
moral turpitude

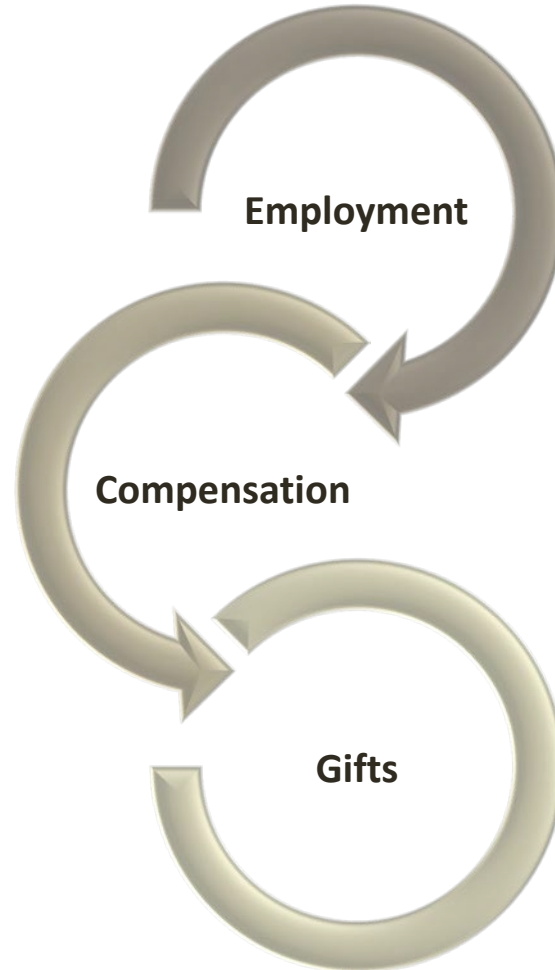
dishonesty, fraud,
deceit, or
misrepresentation

adversely reflects
on fitness to
practice

Rubber stamp



Rules Regarding Conflicts of Interest - Rule 1805.0300





Rules Regarding Improper Solicitation of Employment

Rule 1805.0400

1. A licensee shall seek and engage in only the professional work or employment that the professional is competent and qualified to perform by reason of education, training, or experience.
2. A licensee shall not falsify or misrepresent the extent of the licensee's education, training, experience, or qualifications to any person or to the public; nor misrepresent the extent of the licensee's responsibility in connection with any prior employment.
3. A licensee shall not transmit, distribute, or publish, or allow to be transmitted, distributed, or published, any false or misleading information regarding the licensee's own qualifications, training, or experience, or that of his or her employer, employees, associates, or joint venturers.
4. A licensee shall not tender any gift, pay, or offer to pay, directly or indirectly, anything of substantial value, whether in the form of a commission or otherwise, as an inducement to secure employment. A licensee is not prohibited from paying a commission to a licensed employment agency for securing a salaried position.



Miscellaneous Rules Regarding Improper Conduct





Rule Regarding Responsible Charge & Direct Supervision

Rule 1805.1600

“Responsible Charge” – The person who determines design policy, including technical aspects, advises with the client, superintends subordinates during the course of the work and, in general, the person whose professional skill and judgment are embodied in the plans, designs, and advice involved in the work.

“A Person in Direct Supervision” – A person who is the employer, an employee of the same firm, or who is under contract to or from another firm and who is in responsible charge of the technical aspects of the architectural, engineering, land surveying, landscape architectural, geoscience, or certified interior design work in progress, and whose professional skill and judgment are embodied in the plans, specifications, reports, plats, or other documents required to be certified pursuant to that subdivision.



Ethical Decision Making Model

Evaluate all of the information you have available; acquire more information if necessary. You may find that the problem is more (or less) serious than originally thought.

Consider how your decision might affect all of your constituencies/clients independent of how it affects you.

Consider what ethical values are relevant to the situation. When two or more values are seemingly in conflict you should rank your ethical obligations according to your own moral principles, accepted codes of engineering conduct, and the law.

Determine the best course of action that takes into account your relevant values and constituencies' interests. You may not be able to satisfy everyone's concerns, but you should try. Imagine yourself in another position such as a different company, a neighbor, or a different regulatory agency.



Questions?

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