Fundamentals of Engineering Exam Review

Ethics
CODE OF ETHICS

Reference Handbook pages 3-10

Model Rules, Section 240.15, of Professional Conduct (pg 3-4)

A. Licensee’s Obligation to the Public
B. Licensee’s Obligation to Employer and Clients
C. Licensee’s Obligation to Other Licensees
CODE OF ETHICS

Model Law, Section 110.20 Definitions
A. Engineer
B. Professional Surveyor...

Model Law, Section 130.10 General Requirements for Licensure
A. Eligibility for Licensure
B. Engineering
C. Surveying

Model Law, Section 150.10 Grounds for Disciplinary Action-Licensees and Interns

Model Law, Section 150.30 Grounds for Disciplinary Action-Unlicensed Individuals
CODE OF ETHICS

Model Law, Section 160.10 General Requirements for Certificates of Authorization

Model Law, Section 160.70 Grounds for Disciplinary Action-Firms Holding a Certificate of Authorization

Model Law, Section 170.30 Exemption Clause

Intellectual Property
  Trademarks
  Patents
  Copyrights
  Industrial Design
In June, after becoming a Professional Engineer, you join the state public utilities commission which regulates the rates the local power company can charge its customers. A few days before Christmas you are surprised to receive a turkey in the mail from the power company. You are uncertain whether or not you should keep this gift and you ask, your boss, the head of the commission about this. He tells you that for years the power company has sent all employees of the public utilities commission a turkey at Christmas. So just keep the turkey, it would spoil anyway if you returned it. What is the right thing to do?

(A) Return the turkey to the power company.
(B) Commission employees appreciate this small good will gift. Keep the turkey.
(C) Tell the head of the commission that this practice may be unethical and that you are uneasy about keeping the turkey.
(D) Keep the turkey but ask the power company not to send you one next year.
(E) Give the turkey to a local charity.
Answer is (A): *Return the turkey to the power company.*

Like many ethical decisions, this is not easy. Certainly you should do (C) *Tell the head of the commission* and probably (D) Ask *not to send you one next year* and (E) *Give the turkey to a local charity.* Suggest getting a receipt from the local charity and notify the power company in writing. Leave a paper trail. See the Ethics Chapter in the Reference Handbook Pgs 3-4.

Do you have a better recommendation?
The ethical standards of professional engineers are organized around obligations to certain groups. Which of following is not one of those groups?

(A) The Public
(B) The Engineering Profession
(C) Their Clients
(D) Other Licensees
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(A) The Public  
(B) The Engineering Profession  
(C) Their Clients  
(D) Other Licensees

The Model Rules state that a Licensee has an Obligation to the Public, to an Employer and Client, and to Other Licensees thus the Answer is (B) The Engineering Profession  See pg 3-4
EXAMPLE PROBLEM

A Professional Engineer’s (P.E.) most important duty is toward which of the following groups?

(A) The Public
(B) The Engineering Profession
(C) Their Clients
(D) Other Licensees
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(A) The Public
(B) The Engineering Profession
(C) Their Clients
(D) Other Licensees

Same as the answer in the previous example problem thus the answer is (A) The Public See pg 3-4.
EXAMPLE PROBLEM

A registered engineer is being interviewed by a local radio station about the damage to a building during a recent storm. The interviewer asks a question about the integrity of the building and if it is safe to enter. The engineering should

(A) Give his opinion about his knowledge of the storm.
(B) Relate previous examples and the results on building damages at that time.
(C) Discuss the damage even though he is not a structural engineer.
(D) Decline to answer.
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(A) Give his opinion about his knowledge of the storm.
(B) Relate previous examples and the results on building damages at that time.
(C) Discuss the damage even though he is not a structural engineer.
(D) Decline to answer.

The Model Rules state that a Licensee shall express a professional opinion publicly only if it is founded on adequate knowledge of facts and a competent evaluation of the subject matter. Thus the Answer is (D) Decline to Answer

See pg 3-4
CODE OF ETHICS

Read and Review Model Rules and Model Laws

Reference Handbook pages 3-10

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   C. Licensee’s Obligation to Other Licensees
Best of luck on your FE Exam.

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