

To Be or Not To Be – Ethical .2 CEU

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To Be Or Not To Be - Ethical Handouts

Welcome to our 2 hour CEU!

Ethics is defined as “being in accordance with the accepted principles of right and wrong that govern the conduct of a profession

All Interior Designers and Architects are required to conduct their professional practice in a responsible manner that respects the interests of:

- The general public
 - Their clients
 - Their fellow professional designers and
 - Their suppliers of goods and services to the profession
- I. Responsibility to the general public
 1. Interior Designers and Architects shall comply with all the federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations and codes governing business procedures and the practice of interior design in the jurisdiction in which they practice
 2. Interior Designers and Architects shall not seal or sign drawings, specifications or other interior design documents except where the Designer/Architect or Designer/Architect’s firm has prepared, supervised or professionally reviewed and approved such documents, as allowed by Applicable Laws
 3. Interior Designers and Architects shall at all times consider the health, safety and welfare of the public in spaces they design. They should agree, whenever possible, to notify property managers, landlords and or public officials of conditions within a built environment that endanger the health, safety and/or welfare of occupants
 4. Interior Designers and Architects shall not engage in any form of false or misleading advertising or promotional activities.....such as offering to give away things for free or for a very reasonable price if you aren’t going to do so... especially stores are guilty of doing this
 5. Interior Designers and Architects shall neither offer, nor make any payments or gifts to any public official, nor take any other action, with the intent of unduly influencing the official’s judgment in connection with an existing or prospective project in which the Designers/Architects are interested
 6. Interior Designers and Architects shall not assist or abet improper or illegal conduct of anyone in connection with a project
 - II. Responsibility to their clients
 1. Interior Designers and Architects contracts with their clients shall clearly set forth the scope and nature of the project involved, the services to be performed and the method of compensation for those services
 2. Interior Designers and Architects shall fully disclose to a client all compensation which they shall receive in connection with their project and shall not accept any form of undisclosed compensation from any person or

firm the Interior Designers and Architects deals with in connection with said project

3. Interior Designers and Architects may offer professional services to a client for any form of legal compensation
4. Interior Designers and Architects may offer professional services to a client for any form of legal compensation
5. Interior Designers and Architects shall not undertake any professional responsibility unless they are, by training and experience, competent to adequately perform the work required
6. Interior Designers and Architects shall act with fiscal responsibility in the best interest of their clients and shall maintain sound business relationships with suppliers, industry and trades
7. Interior Designers and Architects shall not divulge any confidential information about the client or the clients project, or utilize photographs of the project except as is expressly allowed by agreement between the Interior Designers and Architects and the client

III. Responsibility to other Interior Designers, Architects and Colleagues

1. Interior Designers and Architects shall not interfere with another Interior Designer's or Architect's existing contractual relationship with a client
2. Interior Designers and Architects shall not initiate, or participate in any discussion or activity which might be reasonably expected to result in an injury to another Interior Designer's reputation or business relationships
3. Interior Designers and Architects may, when requested and it does not present a conflict of interest, render a second opinion to a client, or serve as an expert witness in a judicial or arbitration proceeding
4. Interior Designers and Architects shall not endorse the application for ASID/AIA membership and/or certification, registration or licensing of an individual known to be unqualified with respect to education, training, experience or character, nor shall an Interior Designer or Architect knowingly misrepresent the experience, professional expertise or moral character of that individual
5. Interior Designers and Architects shall only take credit for work that has actually been created by that Interior Designer or Architect or that Interior Designer's or Architect's firm, and under that Interior Designer's or Architects 's supervision
6. Interior Designers and Architects shall respect the confidentiality of sensitive information obtained in the course of their professional activities

IV. Responsibility to the Profession

1. Interior Designers and Architects shall agree to maintain standards of professional and personal conduct that will reflect in a responsible manner on the Society and the profession
2. Interior Designers and Architects shall seek to continually upgrade their professional knowledge and competency with respect to the Interior Design/Architecture profession
3. Interior Designers and Architects agree, whenever possible, to encourage and contribute to the sharing of knowledge and information between

Interior Designers, Architects and other allied professional disciplines,
industry and the public

V. Responsibility to the Employer

1. Interior Designers and Architects leaving an employer's service shall not take drawings, designs, photographs, data, reports, notes, client lists, or other materials relating to work performed in the employer's service except with permission of the employer
2. . Interior Designers and Architects shall not divulge any confidential information obtained during the course of their employment about the client or the client's project unless explicitly allowed to do so by that client

Conclusion

- Be ethical...
- Be the best person you know how to be
- Don't do anything that you wouldn't want someone to do to you!

Bibliography

1. ASID Code of Ethics & Professional Conduct
2. Rosenstand, Nina, The Moral of the Story: An Introduction to Ethics 7th edition: Amazon, June 30, 2008

Biography

Beverly Vosko, Allied Member ASID, RID, CAPS, L.E.E.D Green Associate, CGP (Certified Green Professional) is a full service, Registered Interior Designer in Texas #6333. She is President and founder of both Beverly Vosko Interiors and InteriorDesign-ED; both DBA's for C. V. Design Inc. For over 25 years, she has been designing homes across the United States and Europe, specializing in creating custom residential and commercial environments, be they traditional, transitional, contemporary or eclectic, that match her design clients' every need, through her design firm, Beverly Vosko Interiors. For nearly 20 years, she has taught Interior Design: first at Rice University, then at the University of Houston, and for the last 10 years nationally, with her Continuing Education company, InteriorDesign-ED. Specifically, she has taught Interior Design, Aging in Place, Green/Sustainable Design, Lighting and Antiques. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa, Magna Cum Laude from the University of Pennsylvania, studied Art History at Harvard University, received her MBA in Marketing from NYU Stern Graduate Business School, and completed Design and Antiques training from Sotheby's, the world-renowned Inhbald School of Design and Houston Community College. Please view her websites, www.vosko.com and www.InteriorDesign-ED.com.