

ARTICLE

ETHICS ON THE WEB: AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LEGAL ETHICS MATERIAL ON THE INTERNET

A. Darby Dickerson*

I. INTRODUCTION

The Internet¹ is becoming an increasingly important resource for legal research.² More and more frequently, attorneys can locate information on the Internet that they cannot locate — or at least cannot easily locate — in traditional libraries or on LEXIS or WESTLAW.³ Indeed, the amount of information available on the

* © 1998, A. Darby Dickerson. All rights reserved. Associate Professor of Law and Director of Research and Writing, Stetson University College of Law. J.D., Vanderbilt Law School; B.A., M.A., The College of William and Mary. Before joining the Stetson faculty, Prof. Dickerson was a litigation associate at the Dallas, Texas firm of Locke Purnell Rain Harrell; she also clerked for the Honorable Harry W. Wellford on the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. Prof. Dickerson thanks Michael Dahn, Reference Librarian and Webmaster, and Sally G. Waters, Reference Librarian and Adjunct Professor, at Stetson University College of Law, for their comments on earlier drafts of this bibliography and their insights about conducting Internet research.

1. For an explanation of what the Internet is and how it works, visit PBS, *Understanding and Using the Internet: Beginners Guide* (last modified Oct. 15, 1998) <<http://www.pbs.org/uti/begin.html>>. For a good article about the Internet and legal education, see Michael A. Geist, *Where Can You Go Today?: The Computerization of Legal Education from Workbooks to the Web*, 11 HARV. J.L. & TECH. 141, 143 (1997).

2. See Diana Botluk, *Researching Telecommunications Law on the Internet*, 6 COMM.LAW CONCEPTUS 51, 51 (1998) (emphasizing that “[t]he Internet can place a wealth of valuable information at a researcher’s fingertips”).

3. See Douglas Dangerfield, *Web Surfing, or “The Internet for the Uninformed,”* AM. BANKR. INST. J., Mar. 1996, at *6, available in LEXIS, Lawrev Library, BKRTL File (explaining that “[t]he ultimate value of the Internet is as a research tool. By using the search engines that are readily available, you can access the collected knowledge of

Internet is mindboggling — and, more amazingly, the information available expands every day.⁴ On a more pragmatic note, conducting research on the Internet often can be less expensive than searching the LEXIS and WESTLAW databases.⁵

The Internet currently contains many sites devoted to legal ethics. Thus, while researchers should not abandon more traditional research tools,⁶ they should add the Internet as a source for lo

thousands of experts at the speed of light; try that at your local library. Not only can you access commercial on-line service providers such as Westlaw or Lexis, but you also can contact many university law libraries as well as bar or professional associations⁷). For general information about how to conduct legal research on the Internet, consult the following material: JOSHUA D. BLACKMAN & DAVID JANK, *THE INTERNET FACT FINDER FOR LAWYERS: HOW TO FIND ANYTHING ON THE NET* (1998); Glenn S. Bacal, *The Practical Litigator's 1997 Guide to Internet Research* (visited May 18, 1998) <<http://www.aliaba.org/aliaba/intro.htm>>; Genie Tyburski, *The Compleat Internet Researcher* (visited May 22, 1998) <<http://www.aallnet.org/products/crab/about.htm>>.

4. Current statistics estimate the size of the Web at about 320 million Web pages, with the largest search engines indexing about 100–110 million documents. See Paul Recer, *Study: 320 Million Web Pages, and Counting* (last modified Apr. 3, 1998) <<http://www.seattletimes.com/news/technology>> (also noting that hundreds of pages are constantly being added); Danny Sullivan, *Search Engine Watch, Search Engine Features Chart* (last modified Aug. 4, 1998) <<http://www.searchenginewatch.com/webmasters/features.html>>.

5. See Stacy Seidlitz, *The Texas Lawyer's Guide to Surfing the Internet: Cyberspace, A Useful, but Not Perfect Tool* (last modified Nov. 18, 1996) <<http://www.law.ttu.edu/cyberjou/jour16.htm>> (indicating: “Probably the best reason to use the Internet for legal research is the price. Almost everything on the Internet is free. Compared to commercial databases such as LEXIS and WESTLAW which can charge up to ten dollars a minute (and even more for printing the information), the low cost of the Internet makes it an attractive alternative.”); Geist, *supra* note 1, at 157 (observing that “[a]lthough CALR has become an integral part of legal research, lawyers are still limited by practical considerations such as the high cost of online research”). Of course, most attorneys' time is not free. Therefore, it can be cheaper to conduct research on WESTLAW or LEXIS, despite costs associated with using the database, because an attorney can frequently pull material in a matter of minutes that might take much longer to find on the Internet.

6. For an excellent bibliography of non-Internet ethics and professional responsibility materials, see Deborah L. Rhode, *Annotated Bibliography of Educational Materials on Legal Ethics*, 58 *LAW & CONTEMP. PROBS.* 361 (1995). In addition, both WESTLAW and LEXIS contain materials related to legal ethics and professional responsibility. WESTLAW contains a database on legal ethics and professional responsibility that includes state and federal cases on legal ethics, state rules of professional responsibility, ethics rules and disciplinary decisions, and various secondary materials. For more information about WESTLAW's legal ethics offerings, visit: <<http://www.westgroup.com/documentation/westlaw/wlawdoc>>. LEXIS also contains an ethics library that includes state codes of professional responsibility, ABA ethics opinions, some state and local ethics opinions, cases concerning legal ethics matters, and a treatise on litigation ethics. See LEXIS, Ethics Library; see also Cornell Law Library, *Selected Sources at the Cornell Law*

cating legal ethics information. To assist with this endeavor,⁷ this bibliography compiles Internet sites that contain information about legal ethics. The accompanying Appendix compiles Web sites that contain state rules of professional conduct, state ethics opinions, and other ethics sites devoted to specific states. The bibliography does not, however, address sites that contain random references to legal ethics, post syllabi from law school courses,⁸ or include but a single article about legal ethics.⁹ Because information on the Web is ever changing¹⁰ — and can disappear as easily as it appears¹¹ — readers

Library: Legal Ethics (last modified May 15, 1997) <<http://www.law.cornell.edu/library/ethbib.html#XA>> (identifying various WESTLAW-selected and LEXIS-selected databases on legal ethics). Users can access both LEXIS (<www.lexis.com/xchange>) and WESTLAW (<<http://www.westlaw.com>>) from the Internet.

7. Although searching the Web is not difficult, it can be confusing for those new to Internet research. See Llen T. Oxman, *Trapped in the Net: How Search Engines Compare*, INTERNET NEWSL. LEGAL & BUS. ASPECTS, Aug. 1997, at 7, available in LEXIS, Cybrlw Library, ALLPUBS File (lamenting that “[legal research] via the Internet is not always a quick trip down the information superhighway: [a]ttorneys know how easy it is to get caught in the Web”).

8. For a good example of a professional responsibility syllabus on the Internet, visit Barbara Glesner Fines, *Professional Responsibility: Course Information and Resources* (visited May 18, 1998) <<http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/profiles/glesnerfines/bgfpr1.htm>>.

9. Using various search engines, a researcher can find sites containing single articles on legal ethics topics. Articles about the ethics of attorney advertising on the Internet and client confidentiality issues are particularly prevalent. See, e.g., Will Hornsby, *Professional Ethics and Lawyer Advertising on the Internet* (last modified Mar. 24, 1997) <<http://www.collegehill.com/ilp-news/hornsby2.html>>; Charles F. Luce, Jr., *Confidentiality, Cell Phones & E-Mail* (visited May 18, 1998) <<http://www.mgovg.com/ethics/Scel&eml.htm>>; Arthur L. Smith, *E-Mail and the Attorney-Client Privilege* (visited May 18, 1998) <<http://www.abelaw.com/bamsl/lpm/email.htm>>; Robert L. Jones, Note, *Client Confidentiality: A Lawyer's Duties with Regard to Internet E-Mail* (last modified Aug. 16, 1995) <<http://www.computerbar.org/netethics/bjones.htm>>; Thomas A. Keller, Note, *Attorney/Client Privilege and E-Mail, Is this the Fast Lane to Malpractice on the Information Super-Highway?* (last modified Apr. 9, 1998) <<http://legal.law.stetson.edu/courses/tkeller.htm>>.

10. As one law librarian explained:

There is one constant on the Internet — it is always changing. The Internet is a dynamic place where all aspects of the resources found on it can and do change frequently. Information is continually being added, deleted, and updated by the people who use it, from the private citizen to government agencies. Even entire databases can change hands, such as last year's transfer of the EDGAR Securities database (used by those who are required to file forms with the Securities and Exchange Commission) from a private nonprofit organization to the SEC. The Internet is also like Topsy — its resources are growing exponentially. One day you may not be able to find what you want anywhere. The next day you may not only find it on several sites, but also indexed on all the Internet search engines. . . . Just as suddenly, websites and their databases

are encouraged to use this bibliography as a starting place and to always update their own research.

II. INITIAL INSIGHTS

After spending many hours running searches to locate legal ethics sites,¹² I learned a few important lessons that might benefit other legal ethics researchers. First, legal ethics sites tend to contain a mix of primary materials, such as state ethics codes and ethics opinions, and articles about legal ethics and professionalism, especially short articles about legal ethics and the Internet, and news articles from a few on-line legal journals. Thus, the Internet is a good place to locate these types of sources, but will not yield a wealth of “scholarly writings” on legal ethics or professionalism.

Second, it is almost impossible to locate every site that contains information about legal ethics or professionalism. There are just too many search engines and sites to check. It would take thousands of hours of looking just to ensure that you had not missed anything; and, by the time you finished the initial search, new pages would have appeared and other pages would have moved or been removed. Thus, one can never be sure that the search has yielded all information available.

Third, finding every relevant site typically should not be a researcher's goal. At least in the legal ethics area, most larger sites contain similar content and similar links. For example, many sites described below allow access to (either on the site or through links to other sites) state ethics opinions and codes of professional responsibility. Moreover, the ethics sites tend to link to each other. Therefore, one can locate the majority of available information by visiting just a few sites. After that, the research tends to become circular —

may disappear.

Bonnie Hill, *Legal Research on the Internet: Criminal Law Resources*, 12 CRIM. JUST., Spring 1997, at 13, 13.

11. See Pauline C. Reich, *1996 Women and the Law: An Annotated Internet-Based Bibliography for U.S. and International Legal Research*, 6 TEX. J. WOMEN & L. 143, 144 (1996) (cautioning that “[t]oday's URL may disappear by tomorrow”).

12. To prepare this bibliography, I spent close to 100 hours simply searching for relevant sites. I ran both general and title searches on the AltaVista, Excite, HotBot, InferenceFind, LawCrawler, LawRunner, and MetaCrawler databases. In addition, I spent time looking for links on the Stetson University College of Law's Web site, which contains extensive links to other legal sites, and on many of the more comprehensive sites listed below, such as Legaethics.com and Cornell's library.

you visit different sites, but hit the same material and links over and over again.

Finally, to locate new sites concerning legal ethics, start by running a "title search"¹³ through the AltaVista, HotBot, and InferenceFind engines. When you run the search, restrict the date field so that you are truly looking for the newest sites. When your search results appear, scrutinize the titles and brief descriptions. If a description seems pertinent, click on the title and visit the site.¹⁴

With these insights, below are many Web sites that relate to legal ethics and professionalism. For each site, I have provided a brief explanation of what the site contains and, in many instances, how to access information on the site.

III. LEGAL ETHICS SITES

A. Legalethics.com

One of the most comprehensive sites for legal ethics material, especially material concerning ethics and the Internet, is the aptly-named Legalethics.com.¹⁵ According to its own introductory page:

Legalethics.com offers legal professionals a gateway to understand the unique ethical issues raised by the Internet and Internet technology. Attorneys and state and local authorities will find links to articles, rules, and information relating to Internet ethics issues, including attorney advertising, e-mail communication, and UPL on the Internet. Our "Research" section, in turn, offers links to most of the primary Internet legal research resources. We also offer links to most of the ethics resources available on the Internet.¹⁶

13. A "title search" involves searching for words or terms contained in Web site titles, as opposed to searching for terms that appear anywhere in the site. Running a title search varies from engine to engine. However, on many engines, to run a title search, go to the search box, and type: title: _____. In the blank, fill in your search terms. On some engines, such as HotBot, you do not type "title:" in the search box, but instead use a restriction or segment located in the "advanced search area."

14. I need to thank Michael Dahn, Stetson University College of Law's Webmaster, for this piece of advice, which I found invaluable when researching this bibliography.

15. Internet Legal Services, *Legalethics.com* (visited May 18, 1998) <<http://www.legalethics.com>>.

16. Internet Legal Services, *Legalethics.com: About Legalethics.com* (visited May 18, 1998) <<http://www.legalethics.com/intro.htm>>. Legalethics.com was created and is maintained by Internet Legal Services, which describes itself as "a consulting company to the legal profession assisting with the integration of the Internet into the practice of law."

The Legaethics.com site is divided into several helpful categories.¹⁷ The first category, "Articles," links to articles and newsletters that discuss ethical issues and Internet use.¹⁸ A related category, "Issues," contains a bibliography relating to ethical issues raised by Internet use. The categories within the annotated bibliography are "E-mail issues," "Advertising/Solicitation," and "Unauthorized Practice of Law."

A third category, "WebEthics," is a hypertext discussion of issues concerning legal ethics and the Internet. Recent discussion topics include proposed changes to the Texas rules concerning attorney advertising on the Web, and copyright issues concerning Web sites.¹⁹

The most helpful category is "EthicSites."²⁰ The great benefit of the EthicSite page is that it allows "one stop" access to many state ethics opinions and ethics rules, thus permitting researchers to more easily compare and contrast these rules. This page starts with a chart that lists all the states and the District of Columbia, and identifies which states track the *Model Code of Professional Responsibility*, which states track the *Model Rules of Professional Conduct*, and which states have their own rules or have adopted major modifications to the *Model Rules*.²¹

Internet Legal Services, *Legaethics.com: Overview of Services* (visited May 18, 1998) <<http://www.legaethics.com/brochure.htm>>.

17. As they appear on the Legaethics.com home page, the categories are: Articles, Brochure, EthicSites, Feedback, Issues, Research, Search, and WebEthics. *See id.* This bibliography will not address the Brochure or Research categories, as they do not contain significant information on legal ethics. The Feedback category permits users to submit comments about the site to Internet Legal Services and to suggest links to other legal ethics sources. The Search category permits users to search the entire Web site using Boolean search logic.

18. *See* Internet Legal Services, *Legaethics.com: Articles* (visited May 18, 1998) <<http://www.legaethics.com/articles.htm>>. Just a few examples of articles accessible through this category include: Robert A. Bourque & Kerry L. Conrad, *Avoiding Remote Jurisdiction Based on Internet Web Site*, N.Y. L.J., Dec. 10, 1996 <<http://www.ljx.com/internet/1210jurs.html>>; Marc L. Caden & Stephanie E. Lucas, *Accidents on the Information Superhighway: On-Line Liability and Regulation*, 2 RICH. J.L. & TECH. 3 (1996) <http://www.urich.edu/~jolt/v2i1/caden_lucas.html>; and David G. Post, *Anarchy, State, and the Internet: An Essay on Law-Making in Cyberspace*, 1995 J. ON-LINE L. art. 3 <<http://www.law.cornell.edu/jol/post.html>>.

19. *See* Internet Legal Services, *Legaethics.com: WebEthics Forum* (visited May 18, 1998) <<http://www.legaethics.com/cgi-bin/webethics.cgi>>.

20. Internet Legal Services, *Legaethics.com: EthicSites* (visited May 18, 1998) <<http://www.legaethics.com/ethicsites.htm>>.

21. *See* Internet Legal Services, *Legaethics.com: EthicSites: Legal* (visited May 18,

By clicking on the name of the desired state, a user then goes to a page dedicated to that particular state. On each state page, Legaethics.com lists the address, phone number, and fax number for the state bar association and the state attorney disciplinary office. When possible, the page provides hypertext links to these organizations. In addition, many state pages include a "status" section that describes current opinions, proposals, and studies concerning ethics and Internet issues, such as attorney advertising on the Web,²² rules concerning e-mail confidentiality,²³ and Web site publication issues.²⁴ Further, when available, a "rules and regulations" section on the state page links to state rules of professional conduct, state ethics opinions, and other state information concerning ethics and professionalism.²⁵ Most state pages conclude with an annotated list of "potential" issues within the state that might affect lawyers' ethical use of the Internet and with links to local bar associations with Web sites.

Finally, those who access a particular state's page using the EthicSite category can also access other state resources. For example, a user visiting the Florida page can click on "Florida Legal Resources," and find links to material such as *Florida Administrative Weekly*, Florida Attorney General Formal Opinions, the Florida Constitution, searchable archives of Florida legislation, Florida statutes, and opinions of the Florida Supreme Court.²⁶ However, the EthicSite listing of general state legal resources is rather basic. For Florida, researchers can locate more comprehensive listings of state legal

1998) <<http://www.legalethics.com/legal.htm>>. This page also links to the American Bar Association page. See *id.*

22. See, e.g., Internet Legal Services, *Legaethics.com: EthicSites: States* (visited May 18, 1998) <<http://www.legalethics.com/states/tx.htm>> (discussing and linking to proposed changes in Texas attorney advertising rules).

23. See, e.g., *id.* <<http://www.legalethics.com/states/sc.htm>> (linking to a South Carolina ethics opinion that finds a reasonable expectation of privacy when an attorney sends confidential information through electronic mail).

24. See, e.g., *id.* <<http://www.legalethics.com/states/ma.htm>> (indicating that the Massachusetts Bar Association is studying the issue of Web publications that contain legal information and that are available to the general public).

25. See, e.g., *id.* <<http://www.legalethics.com/states/ms.htm>> (linking to Mississippi state ethics opinions, the *Mississippi Code of Professional Conduct*, the *Rules of Discipline for the State Bar*, and the *Rules of the Mississippi Commission on Judicial Performance*).

26. See, e.g., *id.* (visited May 18, 1998) <<http://www.legalethics.com/states/fl.htm>>.

resources at other Web sites.²⁷

In short, Legaethics.com is a helpful stop for those researching ethical issues concerning technology issues, attorney advertising, client confidences, and lawyer referral services. In addition, the site provides a wealth of links to state ethics resources, which allows researchers to more easily conduct comparative research on a variety of legal ethics issues. Legaethics.com, however, does not compile all ethics sites on the Web. Therefore, as with all other sites, Legaethics.com is a good supplement to ethics research, but should be used with reference to other sources.

B. FindLaw

One helpful place to begin searching for sites related to any legal topic is FindLaw.²⁸ FindLaw's home page contains a menu from which a researcher may connect to on-line resources in several categories.²⁹ The menu categories include "Legal Subject Index," "Law: Cases and Codes," "State Law Resources," and "U.S. Federal Government Resources."³⁰ Researchers seeking information about a particular topic, such as legal ethics, should select the "Legal Subject Index."³¹ The Legal Subject Index page presents a number of topical menu choices, including "Ethics & Professional Responsibility."³² This section then links to several categories of Web resources,

27. See, e.g., American Law Sources On-Line, *Florida* (last modified Sept. 15, 1998) <<http://www.lawsources.com/also/usa.cgi?fl>>; Stetson University College of Law, *Florida Legal Resources on the Internet* (last modified Sept. 8, 1998) <<http://www.law.stetson.edu/law/flresources.htm>>; James Wyman, *Florida Law Online* (last modified Sept. 4, 1998) <<http://www.gate.net/~wyman/flo.html>>.

28. See Internet Legal Resources, *FindLaw* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.findlaw.com>>. For a more comprehensive review of FindLaw, visit Christian J. Helbling & Jill D. Washburn, *An Introduction to Two Internet Legal Resources: FindLaw and Law-Crawler*, 1 W. VA. J.L. & TECH. <<http://www.wvjolt.wvu.edu/wvjolt/current/issue1/reviews/review1.htm>>.

29. See Internet Legal Resources, *FindLaw* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.findlaw.com>>.

30. See *id.* Other menu categories include "Law Schools," "Professional Development," "Legal Organizations," "Law Firms & Lawyers," "Consultants & Experts," "Directories," "Foreign & International Resources," "News & Reference," "Legal Practice Material," and "LegalMinds — Community." See *id.*

31. See Botluk, *supra* note 2, at 51.

32. See Internet Legal Resources, *FindLaw: Legal Subject Index* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.findlaw.com/01topics/index.html>>.

including primary materials,³³ publications,³⁴ outlines from law school courses on professional responsibility, mailing lists and discussion groups, and software.³⁵ The user then selects a sub-category, clicks on the desired topic, and FindLaw then connects the user with the selected site.

C. Hieros Gamos

Hieros Gamos (HG) bills itself as a comprehensive site on government and law.³⁶ HG contains three databases. Within each database, researchers can click on various words or icons to locate desired information, or can run a keyword search.

The database that will be most helpful to those researching legal ethics topics is HG II. HG II contains over seventy primary practice areas, which are further divided into 130 additional areas. Arranged alphabetically by topic, divisions that might interest legal ethics researchers include: conflicts of interest, cyberspace law, ethics, malpractice, and practice of law.

By entering a specific legal topic, researchers can then access a wide variety of materials. For example, the ethics section contains links to various state and model ethics codes, ethics opinions from selected states,³⁷ other ethics sites such as Legaethics.com, many short articles, commentaries and practice guides on legal ethics, and recent state and federal cases on legal ethics. In addition, researchers can also connect to ListServ discussion groups on legal ethics

33. See Internet Legal Resources, *FindLaw: Legal Subject Index: Ethics & Professional Responsibility* (visited May 19, 1998) <http://www.findlaw.com/01topics/14ethics/gov_laws.html>. This section contains links to various state ethics opinions, state bar associations, and state rules of professional conduct. See *id.* It is, therefore, much like the EthicSite category of Legaethics.com, which is described at *supra* notes 14–27.

34. See Internet Legal Resources, *FindLaw: Legal Subject Index: Ethics & Professional Responsibility: Journals and Publications* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.findlaw.com/01topics/14ethics/publications.html>>. This section links to stand-alone Internet articles on legal ethics and to publications — such as *The On-line Journal of Ethics* and the *Journal of Business Ethics* — devoted to ethics and professionalism. See *id.*

35. See Internet Legal Resources, *FindLaw: Legal Subject Index: Ethics & Professional Responsibility: Software* (visited July 31, 1998) <<http://www.findlaw.com/01topics/14ethics/software.html>>. This section links to encryption software and conflict of interest checking software. See *id.*

36. See *Hieros Gamos: The Comprehensive Law and Government Portal* (visited May 25, 1998) <<http://www.hg.org>>.

37. As of May 1998, HG II linked to ethics opinions from Alaska, Kansas, and New York. See *id.*

topics³⁸ and link to sites for related associations, such as the ABA Center for Professional Responsibility and the American Judicature Society. The wealth of links and connections makes HG II a worthwhile Web stop. And — as an added bonus — researchers with passwords can connect to LEXIS and WESTLAW from the HG home page.³⁹

D. W3 Lawyer

W3 Lawyer is another general legal site that contains ethics material.⁴⁰ Researchers can locate pertinent material either by conducting a word search from the home page, or by moving to the “Resources: Ethics” section, which links to selected codes of professional conduct and judicial conduct, other ethics sites, and select essays on attorney ethics.

E. Internet Legal Resources Guide

The Internet Legal Resources Guide describes itself as

[a] categorized index of 3100 select web sites in 238 nations, islands, and territories, as well as more than 850 locally stored web pages and other files [that] . . . was established to serve as a comprehensive resource of the information available on the Internet concerning law and the legal profession, with an emphasis on the United States of America.⁴¹

Among this site's many features is a “practice area” that contains a topical index of law-related sources on the Web. One topic is “professional responsibility and ethics,” which includes materials on attorney advertising, e-mail, and other Internet-related issues. The site can also be searched for keywords. A keyword search for “ethics” yielded additional links to CLE programs and law school outlines on ethics and professional responsibility. One drawback to this site is that several ethics links are outdated or otherwise do not work.

38. For more information on discussion groups, see *infra* Part IV.

39. Researchers can also connect directly to LEXIS <<http://www.lexis.com/xchange>> and WESTLAW <<http://www.westlaw.com>> by visiting their respective Internet sites.

40. See W3 Lawyer, *Professional Ethics* (last modified Oct. 13, 1998) <<http://njlawnet.com/w3lawyer/ethics.html>>.

41. *Internet Legal Resource Guide* (visited May 25, 1998) <<http://www.ilrg.com>>.

F. ABA Center for Professional Responsibility

Created in 1978, the ABA Center for Professional Responsibility has become a leader in developing and distributing scholarly and practical material on legal ethics and professional responsibility.⁴² Given the Center's importance to the professional responsibility field, researchers should visit the Center's Web site.⁴³ This site contains information about the Center's efforts in the areas of legal ethics, professionalism, professional regulation, and client protection. It also contains descriptions of and ordering information for a variety of publications⁴⁴ and videos⁴⁵ on ethics and professional responsibility.

A recently added feature of the Center's site is the "Ethics 2000 home page."⁴⁶ The Commission on the Evaluation of the Rules of Professional Conduct, also known as "Ethics 2000," is charged with:

- 1) conducting a comprehensive study and evaluation of the ethical and professionalism precepts of the legal profession;
- 2) examining and evaluating the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct and the rules governing professional conduct in the state and federal jurisdictions;
- 3) conducting original research, surveys and hearings;
- and 4) formulating recommendations for action.⁴⁷

The Ethics 2000 main page links to the "Ethics 2000 Advisory

42. See ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, *About the Center for Professional Responsibility* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.abanet.org/cpr/cpr.html>>.

43. See ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, *Welcome to the Center for Professional Responsibility* (last modified Sept. 25, 1998) <<http://www.abanet.org/cpr/home.html>>.

44. See, e.g., ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, *Rules and Codes: ABA Compendium of Professional Responsibility Rules and Standards* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.abanet.org/cpr/publications.html#rulesandcodes>>.

45. ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, *Products and Services* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.abanet.org/cpr/products.html>>. Available videos include: "Client Confidentiality," "Conflicts of Interest," "Associate/Partner Relations," "The S.O.B. Litigators Vignettes," "The Judicial Response to Misconduct," "Professional Responsibility and the Solo or Small Firm Practitioner," "Perspectives on Client Communications," "Government Lawyers and the Rules of Ethics," and "Imposing Discipline on Criminal Lawyers: Different Rules, Different Procedures?". See *id.*

46. See ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, *Ethics 2000 — Commission on the Evaluation of the Rules of Professional Conduct* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.abanet.org/cpr/ethics2k.html>>.

47. *Id.*

Council” page, which further describes the Commission's plans and seeks nominations for appointments to the advisory council.⁴⁸

The Center's page also contains a section called “ETHICSearch,” which is the ABA's ethics research service.⁴⁹ An attorney who wishes to use ETHICSearch can call, write, fax, or e-mail ETHICSearch research lawyers and describe the ethical dilemma.⁵⁰ Usually within one day, staff attorneys will provide the requesting attorney with citations to applicable ABA ethics rules and ethics opinions, state and local ethics opinions, relevant caselaw, and secondary materials that will allow the attorney “to understand the issues fully and resolve the problem.”⁵¹ The ETHICSearch page also contains a bibliography of ethics resource materials,⁵² answers to certain ETHICSearch queries reprinted in *The Professional Lawyer*,⁵³ and

48. See ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, *Ethics 2000 Advisory Council* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.abanet.org/cpr/advisory.html>>. This section provides the following, additional details about the Commission's goals:

Some of the areas the Commission will be reviewing are as follows: variations in the Rules as they have been adopted by the states; areas of inconsistency or dissonance from Rule to Rule or Rule to Comment; the American Law Institute's *Restatement of the Law Governing Lawyers*; new forms of technology; public perceptions; multi-city law firms; and the growth of specialized practice areas. It will also be considering ways to improve the format of the current Rules and Comments. In addition, it is considering an experiment to see if the addition of “best practice” or “excellence in practice” aspirational statements is feasible.

Id.

49. See ABA Ethics Research Service, *ETHICSearch* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.abanet.org/cpr/ethicsearch/home.html>>.

50. See *id.* <<http://www.abanet.org/cpr/ethicsearch/how.html>>. Members of the general public can also use the ETHICSearch service. See ABA Ethics Research Service, *Ask ETHICSearch from The Professional Lawyer* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.abanet.org/cpr/ethicsearch/ask.html>> (indicating that “ETHICSearch receives 200–300 calls per month from ABA member lawyers, non-member lawyers and the general public”).

51. See ABA Ethics Research Service, *ETHICSearch: How to Use ETHICSearch* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.abanet.org/cpr/ethicsearch/how.html>>. The Center does not charge for initial consultations or “if the ETHICSearch lawyer can answer your question immediately.” *Id.* However, if the requesting attorney needs additional information, the ETHICSearch attorney will charge by the hour. See *id.* The charge for ABA members is \$45.00 per hour; the charge for non-members is \$60.00 an hour. See *id.*

52. See ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, *Materials for Research in Legal Ethics* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.abanet.org/cpr/ethicsearch/resource.html>>. Unfortunately, this section merely lists sources and does not provide links to the listed items. See *id.*

53. See ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, *Ask ETHICSearch from The Professional Lawyer* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.abanet.org/cpr/ethicsearch/>

headnotes from recent ABA formal ethics opinions.⁵⁴

Finally, the Center's site also contains other helpful links and information.⁵⁵ For example, one section lists professionalism or courtesy codes⁵⁶ adopted by various national, state, and local bar organizations.⁵⁷ This page contains the titles of the various codes, and their dates of enactment. Unfortunately, the page does not reprint the full text of these codes.⁵⁸

G. Texas Center for Legal Ethics and Professionalism

The Texas Center for Legal Ethics and Professionalism was founded in 1989 "to be a resource center for ethics, civility, collegiality and professionalism among lawyers in the [S]tate of Texas."⁵⁹ In addition to providing information about the Center and including a virtual bookstore with a variety of written and video materials, the site's most useful feature is its extensive on-line collection of materials concerning legal ethics and professionalism.⁶⁰

ask.html> (indicating that the answers address "some of the more unusual, interesting and frequently asked questions").

54. See ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, *Recent ABA Formal Ethics Opinion Headnotes* (visited May 19, 1998) <[http://www.abanet.org/cpr/ethicsearch/cent.html](http://www.abanet.org/cpr/ethicsearch/recent.html)>. As of May 19, 1998, this page contained opinions from 1996 and 1997. See *id.*

55. The page contains links to sites for ABA committees associated with the Center, such as the ABA Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility, the ABA Standing Committee on Professionalism, and the Judges Advisory Committee. See ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, *Site Map for Center for Professional Responsibility* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.abanet.org/cpr/sitemap.html>>.

56. Whereas ethics codes, such as the state versions of the *Model Rules of Professional Conduct*, contain mandatory rules that attorneys must follow or be sanctioned, courtesy codes are typically enacted by bar associations as goals that attorneys should, but have no legal obligation to follow. See A. Darby Dickerson, *The Law and Ethics of Civil Depositions*, 57 MD. L. REV. 273, 302-05 (1998).

57. See ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, *Professionalism Codes* (last modified Mar. 26, 1998) <<http://www.abanet.org/cpr/profcodes.html>>.

58. See *id.* The Web site for the Florida Institute for Litigation Ethics (FILE) at Stetson University College of Law contains the full text of many professionalism and courtesy codes. See Stetson University College of Law, *Bar Association Codes of Professional Ethics* (last modified Apr. 9, 1998) <http://www.law.stetson.edu/litethics/ethics_codes.htm>. For more information about FILE's Web site, see the discussion accompanying *infra* notes 80-88.

59. Texas Center for Legal Ethics and Professionalism, *Welcome from Chairman of the Board of Trustees, William B. Hilgers* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.txethics.org/frames40.htm>>.

60. See *id.* <<http://www.txethics.org/frames37.htm>>.

The Center's on-line library reprints, among other items, the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct, Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, Texas Lawyers' Creed, Gender-Neutral Courtroom Procedures, articles on ethics and professionalism from the *Texas Bar Journal*, the State Bar's Litigation Section newsletter *The Advocate*, other law reviews, Texas ethics opinions, and Texas cases concerning ethics and professionalism. The site also includes an on-line treatise titled *The Lawyer as a Professional*,⁶¹ which covers topics such as a lawyer's moral responsibility, professionalism in trial advocacy, and lawyer discipline.

The Center's library also contains an extensive bibliography of materials on professionalism and legal ethics.⁶² The bibliography is divided into the following categories: conflicts of interest; lawyer creeds and codes; legal and professional ethics; excessive fees; and professionalism. It contains well over three hundred entries; unfortunately, the bibliography does not contain links to the listed materials.

Because of its extensive library, the Texas Center's Web site is another valuable stop for those researching matters of legal ethics and professionalism.

H. Cornell Law School

1. American Legal Ethics Library

The American Legal Ethics Library is a product of Cornell Law School's Legal Information Institute.⁶³ The Institute, with financial assistance from the W.M. Keck Foundation,⁶⁴ is creating a digital library on legal and judicial ethics, arranged in a state-by-state for-

61. Texas Center for Legal Ethics and Professionalism, *The Lawyer as a Professional* (Timothy F. Floyd & W. Frank Newton eds., 1991) (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.txethics.org/Professional/frames114.htm>>.

62. See Michael Baucum, *Bibliography of Professionalism: Ethics Topics* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.txethics.org/bibliogr.htm>>.

63. See Cornell Law School, *Legal Information Institute: Scope of the American Legal Ethics Library* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.law.cornell.edu/ethics>>.

64. "The W.M. Keck Foundation has been extremely active in the field of Legal ethics nationally, and has sponsored a variety of programs that support and advance the study of Legal Ethics and Professional Responsibility." Georgetown University Law Center, *W.M. Keck Foundation: About the Foundation Fellowship* (last modified Mar. 12, 1998) <<http://www.law.georgetown.edu/keck/fellowship.html>>.

mat.⁶⁵ The site currently provides links to ethics material from sixteen states and the American Bar Association.⁶⁶ Moreover, “major law firms, working on a pro bono basis,” are in the process of “contributing narratives on the law of lawyering of their states.”⁶⁷

This site can be searched by keyword or through a table of contents, and is linked to the rest of the Cornell collection. For example, a user interested in Florida conflict of interest law can find the appropriate code provisions, follow a link to the related portions of the state narrative, and access comparable sections in the *ABA Model Rules* or *Code* or other states' legal ethics codes.⁶⁸

2. *Legal Information Institute: Materials on Ethics, Judicial Ethics, and Professional Responsibility*

Cornell's Legal Information Institute (LII) site contains sections on ethics,⁶⁹ judicial ethics,⁷⁰ and professional responsibility.⁷¹ As with FindLaw,⁷² these sites link to other sites that contain pertinent

65. See Cornell Law School, *Legal Information Institute: Scope of the American Legal Ethics Library: Listing by Jurisdiction* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.law.cornell.edu/ethics/listing.html>>. The project is directed by Roger C. Cramton, the Robert S. Stevens Professor of Law at Cornell. See *id.* The library is also available on CD-ROM. See *id.*

66. See Cornell Law School, *Legal Information Institute: Scope of the American Legal Ethics Library* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.law.cornell.edu/ethics>>. The states currently linked are: Alabama, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Montana, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia. See *id.*

67. *Id.* The first seven states scheduled for completed narratives are California (prepared by Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison), the District of Columbia (prepared by Covington & Burling), Florida (prepared by Holland & Knight), Illinois (prepared by Mayer Brown & Platt; and Wildman, Harrold, Allen & Dixon), New York (prepared by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom), Pennsylvania (prepared by Drinker Biddle & Reath), and Texas (prepared by Vinson & Elkins). See *id.* The next group of jurisdictions scheduled for completion includes: Connecticut, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin. See *id.*

68. See *id.*

69. See Cornell Law School, *Legal Information Institute: Ethics Materials* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.law.cornell.edu/topics/ethics.html>>.

70. See Cornell Law School, *Legal Information Institute: Judicial Ethics Law Materials* (visited May 19, 1998) <http://www.law.cornell.edu/topics/judicial_ethics.html>.

71. See Cornell Law School, *Legal Information Institute: Professional Responsibility Law Materials* (visited May 19, 1998) <http://www.law.cornell.edu/topics/professional_responsibility.html>.

72. *FindLaw* is discussed at *supra* notes 28–30, 32–35.

information. For example, the ethics and professional responsibility sections link to [Legalethics.com](http://www.legalethics.com).⁷³ The judicial ethics section links to the American Judicature Society and the Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct.⁷⁴

In addition, the LII contains a Folio infobase⁷⁵ titled *Folio Infobase Technology: What Is an Infobase?*.⁷⁶ This infobase contains sections on a wide array of topics, including attorney-client relations, actions as advocates, legal advising, communications concerning a lawyer's services, and responsibilities of lawyers in a firm or association.⁷⁷ Each section is then linked to the applicable ABA *Model Rule of Professional Conduct* and sample state rules.⁷⁸

3. Cornell Law Library

The Cornell Law Library site also includes a section on legal ethics.⁷⁹ This site contains a legal bibliography of legal ethics materials, but contains few links to the full-text version of the listed authorities. Categories in the Cornell bibliography include: Sources of ABA Codes and Rules; ALI/ABA-Rules, Reports, Statements and Standards; Ethics Opinions (including ABA opinions, state opinions, and finding tools); Secondary Sources (including hornbooks, monographs, treatises, restatements, and statutory/rules pamphlets); Ethical Considerations in Specific Areas of Law (including advertising, business and tax law, criminal law, family law, general practice, government, trial practice); Bibliographies; Periodicals on Legal

73. See Cornell Law School, *Legal Information Institute: Professional Responsibility Law Materials* (visited May 19, 1998) <http://www.law.cornell.edu/topics/professional_responsibility.html>; Cornell Law School, *Legal Information Institute: Ethics Materials* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.law.cornell.edu/topics/ethics.html>>.

74. See Cornell Law School, *Legal Information Institute: Judicial Ethics Law Materials* (visited May 19, 1998) <http://www.law.cornell.edu/topics/judicial_ethics.html>.

75. "An infobase is a single-file electronic repository for large volumes of dynamic reference information that is primarily free-format or semi-structured and not well suited for traditional databases. An infobase is to free-formatted information what a database is to structured data." Cornell Law School, *Legal Information Institute: Folio Infobase Technology: What Is an Infobase?* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www2.law.cornell.edu/infobase.htm>>.

76. See *id.*

77. See *id.* The state rules are primarily from California, the District of Columbia, Idaho, New York, and Texas. See *id.*

78. See *id.*

79. See Cornell Law Library, *Legal Ethics: Selected Sources at the Cornell Law Library* (last modified May 15, 1997) <<http://www.law.cornell.edu/library/ethbib.html>>.

Ethics; Research Guides; Audiovisual Materials; and Electronic Sources (including WESTLAW-selected databases, LEXIS-selected databases, and various Web sites).

I. Florida Institute for Litigation Ethics at Stetson University College of Law

In 1996, Stetson University College of Law established the Florida Institute for Litigation Ethics (FILE).⁸⁰ FILE's mission "is to educate attorneys involved in litigation, and judges, about their ethical and, more broadly speaking, their professional obligations. The Institute intends to carry out this mission primarily through the creation of original teaching materials for public and private use."⁸¹

FILE's Web site currently contains three substantive sections. The first concerns FILE's annual Conclave on Attorney Professionalism. The Conclave brings together "Florida judges, lawyers, and academicians to discuss the roles of the bench, the bar, and the law schools in promoting professionalism among lawyers."⁸² This section reprints remarks and speeches given at the annual conference.⁸³

The second section reprints the full text of national, state, and local bar association professionalism and courtesy codes.⁸⁴ FILE currently has twenty-nine codes on-line,⁸⁵ and has plans to add more in the near future.⁸⁶ At this time, FILE is the only place where the full text of these courtesy codes are available, as a compilation, on the Internet.⁸⁷

80. See Stetson University College of Law, *Litigation Ethics: Florida Institute for Litigation Ethics: About the Institute* (last modified June 4, 1998) <<http://www.law.stetson.edu/litethics/overview.htm>>.

81. *Id.*

82. *Id.*

83. See *id.* Panels at the 1996 Conclave covered the role of the bar, the bench, and law schools in promoting professionalism. See *id.*

84. See Stetson University College of Law, *Litigation Ethics: Florida Institute for Litigation Ethics: Bar Association Codes of Professional Ethics* (last modified Apr. 9, 1998) <<http://www.law.stetson.edu/litethics/ethicscodes.htm>>. For information about the difference between an ethics code and a courtesy code, see *supra* note 56.

85. See Stetson University College of Law, *Litigation Ethics: Florida Institute for Litigation Ethics: Bar Association Codes of Professional Ethics* (last modified Apr. 9, 1998).

86. The Author is a member of FILE and is involved in the courtesy code project.

87. Researchers can obtain hard copies of these and other aspirational codes from the ABA Center for Professional Responsibility.

FILE's third section links to various other ethics sites, including the ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, Legaethics. com, numerous state bar ethics sites, and various ethics publications. The number of links have increased with the addition of the Author's Litigation Ethics Seminar page.⁸⁸

J. Harvard Law School Legal Ethics Web Site

The Harvard Law School Legal Ethics Web site was established by Harvard Law School "as a resource for information on legal ethics, professional responsibility, and related topics pertaining to the legal profession."⁸⁹ The site links to ethics materials prepared by the American Bar Association and various state bars. It also links to ethics rules concerning arbitrators, mediators, judges, and paralegals. The site's "library" section contains hypertext links to various ethics articles and publications concerning legal ethics. A password-protected section contains information accessible only to members of the Harvard community.

K. Georgetown University Legal Explorer

Like Harvard, Georgetown has created a list of links to various legal ethics material (such as state ethics codes), publications concerning legal ethics (like the *Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics*), and other ethics sites.⁹⁰ This site, however, is not as comprehensive or easy to use as the sites at Harvard or Stetson.

L. John Marshall Law School, Center for Information Technology & Privacy Law

The John Marshall Law School's Center for Information Technology & Privacy Law maintains a site called "Cyberspace Law: Professional Regulation" that concerns attorneys' activities in

88. The address for this page is <<http://www.law.stetson.edu/courses/litethics/default.htm>>. The page will contain the course syllabus, an extensive bibliography of legal ethics materials, and links to a variety of legal ethics resources. A copy of this Article will also appear on the page and on the *Stetson Law Review* page, located at <<http://www.law.stetson.edu/lawrev/default.htm>>.

89. Harvard Law School, *Harvard Law School Legal Ethics Web Site* (last modified May 4, 1997) <<http://www.law.harvard.edu/groups/hlslews/index.html>>.

90. See Georgetown University Legal Explorer, *Legal Ethics* (last modified July 13, 1998) <<http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/lr/rs/ethics.html>>.

cyberspace.⁹¹ This site links to ethics opinions, cases, law review articles, and other materials on topics such as attorney advertising on the Internet and legal malpractice on attorney bulletin boards.

M. Roger Williams University School of Law Library: Selected Materials on Legal Ethics

As part of its "Time Savers" program, the Roger Williams University School of Law Library has compiled a selected bibliography of materials on legal ethics.⁹² The bibliography contains sections on codes, rules and other professional standards; treatises and casebooks on legal ethics and professional responsibility; materials containing texts or summaries of ethics opinions; information on state legal ethics; audio-visual materials; bibliographies, directories, and citators; journals on legal ethics; and restatements on law governing lawyer conduct.

Although the sources in the bibliography are from the Roger Williams Library and are not linked to Internet sources, the bibliography provides a fairly comprehensive list of legal ethics materials that may assist researchers.

N. University of Florida's Legal Information Center

The University of Florida College of Law's Legal Information Center has prepared a variety of legal research guides.⁹³ One guide concerns legal ethics materials.⁹⁴ This guide instructs users on how to locate various ethics opinions and rules of professional responsibility, and identifies sources that reprint these materials. It also gives background information on the difference between formal and informal ethics opinions and the history of ABA rules concerning

91. See John Marshall Law School Center for Information Technology & Privacy Law, *Cyberspace Law: Professional Regulation* (last modified Aug. 25, 1998) <<http://www.jmls.edu/cyber/index/profess.html>>.

92. See Nanette Kelly, Roger Williams University School of Law Library, *Time Savers: Selected Materials on Legal Ethics* (last modified June 10, 1997) <<http://www.rwu.edu/law/ts11.html>>.

93. See University of Florida College of Law, *Legal Information Center: Research Guides* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://nersp.nerdc.ufl.edu/~lawinfo/college/LIC/guides.html>>.

94. See University of Florida College of Law, *Guide to Locating Ethics Opinions and Model Code or Rules of Professional Conduct* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://nersp.nerdc.ufl.edu/~lawinfo/college/LIC/Research/ethics.html>>.

legal ethics. The guide ends with an extensive bibliography of treatises and other sources that contain information about legal ethics. Although limited in scope, this guide provides a good foundation for those who have not previously researched topics concerning legal ethics.

O. Legal List: Research on the Internet

Prepared by research librarian Diana Botluck, the Legal List site provides both general and specific information on how to conduct legal research on the Internet.⁹⁵ Chapter 10 concerns researching ethics and professional responsibility issues. Within this chapter are sections describing research strategies and annotated links to various codes of conduct, ethics opinions, ethics organizations, ethics Web sites, and ethics ListServ discussion groups.

P. Law Office Hornbook

“The Law Office Hornbook is a resource for lawyers and law firm administrators seeking information and guidance on issues relating to malpractice avoidance, firm management, and lawyers' professional liability insurance.”⁹⁶ This Web site resulted from the collaboration effort of the Virginia State Bar, the Hawaii State Bar, the State Bar of Arizona, and the New Mexico State Bar.⁹⁷ The site editors produce a quarterly newsletter titled *Law Office Hornbook Report*, which is reproduced on the site. Sample articles in the newsletter include: “Client File Retention: Albatross or Shield?” and “Leaving the Firm and Taking the Client.”

Q. National Organization of Bar Counsel

The National Organization of Bar Counsel “is a non-profit organization of attorneys who, serving as legal counsel to state and federal courts, departments, agencies and bar associations in more than 60 attorney disciplinary jurisdictions in the United States, Canada and Australia, enforce ethical rules which regulate the pro-

95. See Diana Botluck, *The Legal List: Research on the Internet* (last modified Jan. 22, 1998) <<http://www.lcp.com/The-Legal-List/index.html>>.

96. *Law Office Hornbook* (last modified Oct. 5, 1998) <<http://hornbook.com>>.

97. *Id.*

fessional conduct of attorneys.”⁹⁸

This site will interest legal ethics researchers because it includes semi-annual compilations of court decisions on attorney disciplinary matters for the years 1996–98. Within each year, cases are arranged by topic. Indexed topics include bar admission standards; adverse and conflicting interests; advertising and solicitation; communication with adverse parties; competency and neglect; confidentiality; criminal convictions; fraud; fees; sexual misconduct; misappropriation and commingling; disciplinary procedure; sanctions; mitigation and aggravation; failure to respond or cooperate with disciplinary proceedings; reciprocal discipline; violation of disciplinary conditions; reinstatement; unauthorized practice of law; frivolous litigation and Rule 11; duty to report misconduct; judicial misconduct; prosecutorial misconduct; duty to supervise; and attorney-client issues.

R. Charles Luce on Legal Ethics and the Practice of Law

Charles F. Luce is a partner in the Denver, Colorado firm of Moye, Giles, O’Keefe, Vermeire & Gorrell LLP.⁹⁹ A member of the Colorado Bar Association Legal Ethics Committee, Luce’s site currently contains about a dozen short articles on legal ethics.¹⁰⁰ Included among the titles are: “The Ethics of Naming Opposing Counsel as a Witness,” “Ex Parte Contacts with Former Employees: Gold Mine or Land Mine?,” “Confidentiality, Cell Phones & E-Mail,” “Who Owns the Client File?,” and “Ethics in Attorney Advertising & Solicitation.” The page also contains links to other popular legal ethics sites.

S. Muchmore & Wallwork, P.C.

98. National Organization of Bar Counsel, *Welcome to Nobc.org* (last modified Oct. 1, 1998) <<http://www.nobc.org>>.

99. See Moye, Giles, O’Keefe, Vermeire & Gorrell Online, *Charles Luce on Legal Ethics and the Practice of Law* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.mgovg.com/ethics>>.

100. See *id.*

Muchmore & Wallwork, P.C., a Phoenix, Arizona law firm, has included various legal ethics links on its site.¹⁰¹ Helpful links include those to the ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, American Arbitrators Association (and to that organization's code of conduct), Code of Conduct for Judicial Employees, Directory of Lawyers' Funds for Client Protection, LII, and Legaethics.com.

T. G&B Lane's Payles Legal Research Center

This site¹⁰² contains links to many other legal ethics sites, including Ethics on the World Wide Web, Legaethics.com, the ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, and the NetEthics Committee of the Georgia State Bar. It also links to articles and essays on legal ethics and the Internet. However, when compared to many other sites described in this bibliography, this site is rather thin on content.

U. California State University, Ethics on the World Wide Web

Ethics on the World Wide Web¹⁰³ contains links to legal ethics sites such as Legaethics.com, Misconduct.com (concerning attorney discipline in Texas), the Law and Reform Home Page, and the American Society of Law, Medicine, and Ethics. The site contains more comprehensive information on media ethics and photojournalism ethics.

V. Illinois Institute of Technology, Center for the Study of Ethics in the Professions

The Illinois Institute of Technology started the Center for the Study of Ethics in the Profession (CSEP) in 1976 to promote education and scholarship relating to various professions, including the law.¹⁰⁴ In 1996, CSEP began to put its collection of over 850 codes of

101. See Muchmore & Wallwork, P.C., *Legal Ethics* (visited May 25, 1998) <<http://www.mmwww.com/selectsites/legaethics.html>>.

102. G&B Lane's Payles Legal Research Center, *Ethics in the Legal Profession* (visited May 25, 1998) <<http://www.payles.com/law/ethics.html>>.

103. California State University at Fullerton School of Communications, *Ethics on the World Wide Web: Legal Ethics* (visited May 25, 1998) <<http://commfaculty.fullerton.edu/lester/ethics/legal.html>>.

104. See Illinois Institute of Technology, *Center for the Study of Ethics in the Professions* (last modified Aug. 25, 1998) <<http://csep.iit.edu>>.

ethics on the Web. These codes are from various fields, including law, business, government, and academic institutions. Unfortunately, the site — at this point — contains very few codes of legal ethics.

W. Santa Clara University, Markkula Center for Applied Ethics

The Markkula Center for Applied Ethics at Santa Clara University “focuses on ethical theory, but also offers practical methods for the application of ethical principles in the real world.”¹⁰⁵ The site's “practicing ethics” section contains divisions for technology, social policy, medical ethics, business ethics, international human rights, and “everyday” ethics. The social policy division contains information on legal ethics that links to sites such as Legalethics.com, American Inns of Court, the ACLU Freedom Network, the NetEthics Committee of the Georgia State Bar, and various rules of professional responsibility.

X. Selected Sites on Attorney Advertising and E-Mail on the Internet

Although many Internet sites contain pieces of information on attorney advertising and e-mail on the Internet, the following sites have gathered material on these topics from many different jurisdictions.

The Lawlinks.com site contains *A Survey of Bar Ethics Opinions on the Use of Internet E-mail*.¹⁰⁶ The Personal Injury Legal Directory site links to advertising provisions in state ethics codes.¹⁰⁷ *The Internet: An Ethics Wake Up Call*,¹⁰⁸ collects various state rules on both attorney advertising on the Web and e-mail issues.

Y. Publications on Legal Ethics

105. Santa Clara University Markkula Center for Applied Ethics, *Ethics Connection: Introduction to the Center* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.scu.edu/Ethics/about/introduction>>.

106. See Michael Pearce Dodson, *A Survey of Bar Ethics Opinions on the Use of Internet E-mail* (last modified Sept. 16, 1997) <<http://lawlinks.com/ethics2.html>>.

107. See *Personal Injury Legal Directory* (last modified Aug. 31, 1998) <<http://www.legaldir.com/index.shtml>>.

108. Peter Krakaur, *The Internet: An Ethics Wake Up Call* (visited May 25, 1998) <<http://www.collegehill.com/ilp-news/krakaur.html>>.

Some legal ethics publications are available on the Internet in either abstract or full-text form. The *Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics* has a site that indexes all articles printed in that review.¹⁰⁹ The *Journal* is also building a page called "Test Your Ethics."

Another useful site is *Law Journal Extra!, Professional Responsibility*, which prints the full text of columns and news articles on professional responsibility and legal ethics.¹¹⁰ The *California Bar Journal* also prints a regular column called "Hypothethics," which presents ethics hypotheticals and proposed responses by members of the Bar.¹¹¹ Other on-line publications include *The On-line Journal of Ethics*¹¹² and *Ethics*, an international journal of ethics and philosophy.¹¹³

Z. State Ethics Materials

Most state bar associations currently post either summaries or the full text of ethics opinions, and reprint their state code of professional responsibility.¹¹⁴ Some also post judicial ethics materials.¹¹⁵ For researchers' convenience, Appendix 1 below compiles the URL addresses for these sites and includes a brief description of what each site contains. As with the links in *Legalethics.com*,¹¹⁶ this compilation should assist researchers in accessing information not readily available in more traditional sources and in conducting comparative analyses more effectively.

109. See *Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics, Index of Our Journal* (visited May 19, 1998) <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/journals/ethics/eth_fr.html>.

110. See *Law Journal Extra!, Professional Responsibility* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.ljextra.com/practice/professionalresponsibility/prcol.html>>.

111. See, e.g., *California Bar Journal, Hypothethics* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://www.calbar.org/2cbj/97sep/97sep-11.htm>>.

112. See DePaul University Institute for Business and Professional Ethics, *The On-Line Journal of Ethics* (visited May 19, 1998) <<http://condor.depaul.edu/ethics/ethg1.html>>.

113. See *Ethics* (visited May 19, 1998) <ftp://cogsci.l.chiba-u.ac.jp/pub/Journals_Books_and_Conferences/Ethics/index.html>.

114. See *infra* App. 1.

115. For a site that compiles information on state judicial ethics committees and commissions, visit: Hon. Scott J. Silverman, *A National Survey of Judicial Ethics Advisory Organizations* (visited May 26, 1998) <<http://www.fl.judges.com/Articles/nation~1.htm>> (this site gathers state statutes and rules for committees, commissions, and panels charged with rendering ethical opinions on judicial conduct). For a list of judicial conduct organizations, visit the American Judicature Society's site at <<http://www.ajs.org>>.

116. See *supra* notes 15–27 (concerning *Legalethics.com*).

IV. DISCUSSION GROUPS

Discussion groups — also known as ListServes¹¹⁷ — can be useful sources of information on legal ethics (and other topics). ListServes are e-mail discussion groups that allow members to send messages and exchange information. E-mail users join a listserv by subscribing to the list.¹¹⁸ Once a user has joined a list, he or she may send a message to the entire group at the ListServ address.¹¹⁹ Below are several discussion groups on legal ethics, along with subscription information for those who wish to join:

- **LEGALETHICS-L@lawlib.wuacc.edu** (legal ethics list; operated by the Science / Technology Section Law and Ethics on the Net of the American Bar Association and the Catholic University School of Law). To subscribe, send the following message to listserv@lawlib.wuacc.edu: subscribe legelethics-L Your Name.
- **aslme-l@lawlib.wuacc.edu** (American Society for Law, Medicine, and Ethics; owned by Mark Folmsbee and Jim Milles, zzfollm@acc.wuacc.edu). To subscribe, send the following message to listserv@lawlib.wuacc.edu: subscribe aslme-l Your Name.
- **cpae@catfish.valdosta.peachnet.edu** (Center for Professional and Applied Ethics list, including computing, law, and business ethics; owned by Ari Santas, asantas@grits.valdosta.peachnet.edu; Ron Barnette, rbarnett@grits.valdosta.peachnet.edu; Department of Philosophy, Center for Professional and Applied Ethics, Valdosta State University, Valdosta, GA 31698). To subscribe, send the following message to

117. As one librarian explained:

Electronic mail discussion groups, also known as listserv lists, can prove enormously helpful in locating sought information. If a document exists somewhere on the Internet, then someone must know about it. Chances are that someone will be a subscriber to the e-mail discussion group that most closely relates to the topic at hand. . . .

Botluk, *supra* note 2, at 57.

118. For additional information on how to join a discussion group, visit *Law Lists Introduction* (visited May 26, 1998) <<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/~llou/lawlists/intro.html>>.

119. See Regents University School of Law, *Law-Related Listservs: Listserv Basics* (visited May 26, 1998) <<http://www.regent.edu/lawlib/lists/ll-intro.html>>.

listserv@catfish.valdosta.peachnet.edu : subscribe cpae Your Name.

- **LEON@ftplaw.wuacc.edu** (Law and Ethics on the “Nets” (LEON) List; operated by the John Marshall Law School's Center for Informatics Law and the American Bar Association Section of Science & Technology Committee on Information Practices, Policies, and Privacy; regulation of the Internet). To subscribe, send the following message to listproc@ftplaw.wuacc.edu: subscribe leon Your Name.
- **lethics@list.uvm.edu** (Law and ethics in business). To subscribe, send the following message to listproc@elk.uvm.edu: subscribe legalic-l Your Name.
- **WEB-ETHICS@idyllmtn.com** (list for discussion of the ethics of using and providing information on the World Wide Web). To subscribe, send the following message to major domo@idyllmtn.com: subscribe web-ethics Your Name.
- **WEBETHICS** (moderated list to discuss how the *Rules of Professional Conduct* are, or should be, applied to lawyers' use of the Internet). To join, simply visit the Legaethics.com site.¹²⁰

V. CONCLUSION

The Internet should become a standard stop for those researching legal ethics and professionalism issues. As with many other areas, the Internet provides access to materials not easily accessible through other means or provides inexpensive access to materials available through fee-based on-line sources. Although navigating the net can sometimes be frustrating, this bibliography hopefully will serve as an encouraging starting point and will help identify those sites with useful legal ethics and professionalism information.

I end — as I started — with a word of warning. Since materials on the Internet are always changing, researchers should always conduct their own, independent research to ensure that the “cited sites” still exist and to determine what new sites might have ap-

120. See *supra* notes 16–27 and accompanying text (discussing Legaethics.com and WebEthics).

peared.¹²¹

121. For tips on locating new sites, see *supra* Part II.

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