

THE SUPREME COURT of OHIO

COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONALISM

LAWYER TO LAWYER MENTORING PROGRAM WORKSHEET K SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Worksheet K is intended to facilitate discussion about sexual harassment in the legal profession, including effective ways for lawyers to recognize, prevent, address, stop, and report sexual harassment.

- Using the resources provided, discuss the ethical obligations that arise when a lawyer witnesses sexual harassment in the workplace, including but not limited to sexual harassment between a: lawyer and lawyer, lawyer and judge, lawyer and client, lawyer and support staff (paralegal, secretary, etc.).
- Discuss ways to prevent sexual harassment in the workplace, including implementing sexual harassment awareness seminars, lectures, etc. on signs of and ways to recognize/address instances of sexual harassment, both if witnessed and/or personally experienced.
- Discuss how to and who to report sexual harassment to if sexual harassment is experienced or witnessed by a lawyer. Address the importance of reporting sexual harassment, even if the lawyer is afraid of reporting for some reason, such as reporting a senior partner of the firm.
- Help the mentee develop a strategy to respond to sexual harassment whether experienced or witnessed by the mentee (asking the harasser to stop the conduct, talking to a coworker, reporting the harassment, etc.)
- Give the mentee practical tips on how to avoid sexual harassment, providing examples of what type of behavior is and is not acceptable in the workplace in accordance with professionalism standards for attorneys.

RESOURCES

HARRASSMENT: HTTPS://WWW.EEOC.GOV/LAWS/TYPES/HARASSMENT.CFM



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5 STEPS TO FIGHTING SEXUAL HARASSMENT: <u>https://www.lawcrossing.com/employers/article/900049172/5-Steps-To-Fighting-</u> Sexual-Harassment-within-Law-Firms/

PREVENTING SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE WORKPLACE: <u>https://www.nolo.com/legal-</u> Encyclopedia/preventing-sexual-harassment-workplace-29851.html

WHAT IF IT HAPPENED AT YOUR FIRM: HTTPS://CAREERS.FINDLAW.COM/LEGAL-CAREER-ASSESSMENT/SEXUAL-HARASSMENT-WHAT-IF-IT-HAPPENED-AT-YOUR-FIRM.HTML

5 SIGNS YOU'LL LOSE A SEXUAL HARASSMENT CASE:

https://www.lexisnexis.com/legalnewsroom/labor-employment/b/labor-employmenttop-blogs/archive/2011/11/18/5-signs-that-you-ll-lose-your-sexual-harassmentcase.aspx?Redirected=true

SEXUAL HARASSMENT AT WORK: <u>https://employment.findlaw.com/employment-</u> DISCRIMINATION/SEXUAL-HARASSMENT-AT-WORK.html

SIGNS OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE WORKPLACE: <u>http://www.briskilawfirm.com/signs-sexual-harassment-workplace/</u>

What Sexual Harassment in the legal industry looks like: https://www.law.com/americanlawyer/2018/02/28/yl-board-this-is-what-sexualharassment-in-the-legal-industry-looks-like/