

## **IFPI Code of Ethics**

It is a condition of IFPI membership that members are required to comply with the Code of Ethics and cooperate fully in the investigation of any allegation or complaint of a breach.

### **As a Forensic Practitioner**

1. I will act with honesty and integrity.
2. I will conduct my professional life so as to inspire the confidence of my peers, my clients and the public.
3. I regard it as my duty to know my work thoroughly and to take every opportunity to learn more about my profession.
4. I will make no claim to qualifications that I do not possess.
5. I will regard myself as a member of an important and honourable profession.
6. I will treat my fellow professionals with respect.
7. I will conduct my investigations using rational and logical methods of enquiry.
8. I will undertake only those investigations in which I am technically competent.
9. I will take personal responsibility for my own technical competence in forensic practice.
10. I will use methods, procedures or protocols of proven validity and appropriate equipment and materials.
11. I will assist my colleagues with peer review and, in doing so, I will never betray a confidence or otherwise jeopardise their investigations.
12. I will declare to my clients or employers any prior involvement or interest which may give rise to a conflict of interest, real or perceived, and act in any such cases only with the client's explicit consent.
13. I agree to abide by current legislation to ensure that information is obtained legally and used only for the purposes it was obtained. I agree to keep all information given in a confidential manner.
14. I will respect and protect lawyer-client confidentiality unless the law obliges, a court or tribunal orders or a client explicitly authorises disclosure.
15. I will inform an appropriate authority if I consider there to be a risk of a miscarriage of justice.

### **As an Expert Witness**

16. I recognise that as an expert witness my overriding duty is to the court as set out in the High Court code of conduct for expert witnesses.
17. I will comply with the NZ High Court Code of Conduct.
18. I will not act as an advocate.
19. I will not usurp the role of the trier-of-fact.
20. I will be independent, unbiased, and objective with respect to any analysis, and interpretation.
21. I will present my evidence in a balanced and impartial manner.
22. I will know the limits of my expertise and provide Expert Evidence only within those limits.

### **Breaches of the Code of Ethics**

This Code sets out the professional and ethical standards expected of our members. Any alleged breach of the code and accepted by the Executive Committee as sufficiently serious or concerning will be referred to a special subcommittee pursuant Rule 15.5. All parties will have the opportunity to discuss the matter in a fair and good faith process. If the allegation is upheld the committee may recommend removal of the offending person from the Institute pursuant to Rule 9.3.1.

It is important to bring to the attention of the Executive committee any possible breaches of the Code.

The Institute will not tolerate any retaliatory action against any member for bringing any possible ethics violation to the attention of the Executive Committee.

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