

# Ethics Project (part1)

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## INTRODUCTION

- The 2018 Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct is designed by American Institute of Architects (AIA) to inspire and guide the ethical conduct of all practicing professionals.
- The Code is organized in three major statements: Canons, Ethical Standards, and Rules of Conduct.
- Canons are broad principles of conduct that help to categorize the more specific rules/obligations in the codes of ethics.
- Ethical Standards (E.S) are very specific objectives concerning professional performance and behavior.
- Rules of conduct are mentioned in each of the canons and architects are obligated to follow them.
- The codes state the responsibilities to the public, to the colleagues, to the environment that architect must respect and follow during architectural practice.

## **CANON I : General Obligations**

Architects are to follow certain principles and rules and keep advancing their knowledge in architecture while practicing.

**Rule 1.101** Architects need to demonstrate a consistent arrangement of rational precaution and competence, as well as apply the technical knowledge and skill required for outstanding performance and practice in the same locality.

Training is essential to help the architect achieve the goals of maintaining standards and strive to advance their designs practice.

Respecting and preserving the surrounding cultural heritage and the quality of life are essential in architectural practice.

**Rule 1.401** There is zero tolerance for harassment and discrimination based on race, religion, national origin, age, disability, caregiver status, gender, gender identity, and sexual orientation during any architectural project.

**Rule 1.402** Architects must take great care to preserve the well-being and rights of all individuals. No reckless activities regarding any architectural project is acceptable.

Human dignity, health, safety and welfare of the public must be integrated into the design.



## **Canon II: Obligations to the Public**

Architects must follow the laws at all times

**Rule 2.101** Architects cannot knowingly break any local, state or federal laws while working on a project.

**Rule 2.102** Bribery, acceptance or offering of gifts as a way to influence any building office with intent to benefit on a project or individually is prohibited.

**Rule 2.103** Architects working for project related to a company cannot accept gifts or bribes to influence judgement.

**Rule 2.104** Architect members of AIA cannot be involved or should never be engaged in fraud.

**Rule 2.105** In the event of a violation of any law or regulation by colleagues, others must advise against such actions and report the issue and do not consent to be involved.

**Rule 2.106** Architects shall never assist clients in fraudulent or illegal actions.

**Rule 2.301** Conflict of interest should be reported and members should not accept compensation for their decisions.

**Rule 2.401** The architect should be transparent and inform client of building impacts to the environment and consequences on behalf of the client.

### **Canon III: Obligations to the Client**

**Rule 3.101** As noted above architects must follow the laws and regulations and seek help from professionals to understand the regulations if needed.

**Rule 3.102** Non licensed architects must be assisted by licensed architect when conducting a service.

**Rule 3.103** Architects must never change the scope of work without clients approval and should avoid conflict of interest situations and announce unavoidable issues.

**Rule 3.201** Architects should not allow service to be affected due to their connection to another project or person. All conflicting situations should be disclosed and advice is allowed.

**Rule 3.202** Judgement of service based on favoritism is unacceptable.

**Rule 3.301** False judgement towards other architects ongoing project are unacceptable.

**Rule 3.401** Members can only reveal information affecting clients when required by law; otherwise client's confidentiality is a must for all members.



## **Canon IV: Obligations to the Profession**

**E.S.4.1** Honesty and fairness should be in the habits of all members while working on a project.

**Rule 4.101** Any misconduct against the codes and regulations shall be filed to National Ethics Council.

**Rule 4.102** No members can sign or seal any projects that they were not involved in.

**Rule 4.103** Members should never provide false information pertaining to their work: dignity and integrity should be demonstrated in all projects and enforced by employer.

**Rule 4.201** Professional qualification, experience and performance of members should be stated in the scope of work and their responsibilities towards the project. Lies are prohibited.

**Rule 4.202** Members must insure that any supervisor position follows the codes and regulations

## **Canon V: Obligations to the Colleagues**

Members must treat colleagues with respect and dignity to help improve their professional development.

**Rule 5.101** Members should promote a positive working environment by treating co-workers with a lot of respect. Where experience and qualified members fulfil their responsibility of helping new architects grow and evolve.

**Rule 5.201** Licensed members who mentor or offer internships to junior architects must assist in proper and timely documentation regarding their progression to a license. Architects cannot take credit for others work and should give credit when needed.

**Rule 2.301** Members need to respect others professional contributions in the project.

**Rule 5.302** Permission should be obtained from current or past employer to display projects even if they are yours.

**Rule 5.303** Members should not unreasonably deny a departing employee from showing past work



## **Canon VI: Obligations to the Environment**

**E.S.6.1** Architects should make a goal to constantly reduce greenhouse gas emission in their clients project.

**E.S.6.2** Members have to preserve and prioritize water conservation for each project.

**E.S.6.3** Members should consider human health first and be mindful of the materials being used to minimize exposure to toxins in the environment.

**E.S.6.4** Natural habitat and the client project should be closely monitored to maintain the ecosystem and promote environmental and health quality.

**E.S.6.5** Members should be mindful of climate change and strategize with the client to anticipate extreme weather and effects on environment and public health.

**Rule 6.501** Members need to consider with their clients the project needs and the impact on the environment.



## **Rules of Application, Enforcement, and Amendment**

**Application:** All members of AIA must follow these codes of ethics in the exercise of their professional activities.

**Enforcement:** These codes are administered through the National Ethics Council appointed by the AIA board of directors, who enforce these codes on all members. Charges are filed directly to NEC. Penalties such as admonition, censure, suspension of membership and termination of membership are enforceable by NEC. Appeals are permitted and all actions are confidential but all penalties shall be made public.

**Amendment:** Minor amendments to the code of ethics and professional conduct maybe be able by the institute



# Ethics Case Study(part2) Andlinger Center construction

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## Case

The Trustees of Princeton University are suing Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects (TWBTA), a New York-based firm that provided architectural services related to the Andlinger Center project, as well as Texas-based sub-consultants Jacobs Architects/Engineers, Inc. and Jacobs Consultancy Inc.

The Trustees's complaint alleges that members of the design team "failed to perform their professional design responsibilities in accordance with the prevailing standard of care, resulting in unnecessary and excessive additional costs and expensive project delays."

The University is suing TWBTA and Jacobs Entities for professional negligence, as well as breach of contract between the University and TWBTA. The suit also lists a claim of "indemnification," stating that TWBTA is contractually required to compensate the University for all costs relating to the design team's negligence.

The complaint was filed on Dec. 10, and a summons was issued to the defendants that same day. At the time of publication, TWBTA and Jacobs Entities had not responded to requests for comment.

According to the complaint, TWBTA and Jacobs Entities issued approximately 87 Architect's Supplemental Instructions (ASI) between June 2012 and June 2017. An ASI constitutes "a formal notice issued from an architect to address and resolve minor, non-contractual, issues that might arise during the construction process."

In the Andlinger Center project, the ASIs led to the issuance of 462 design-related Change Order Requests (COR). The complaint states that 438 of the CORs related to the design team's "errors and omissions," 17 to 3D modeling software, known as Building Information Modeling (BIM), and seven to design-team-caused delays. The University calculated damages of \$3.4 million in "errors and omissions costs," \$1,363,951 in "additional BIM costs," and at least \$6 million from design-team-caused delays — amounting to over \$10.7 million total in costs.



Opinion