

CODE OF ETHICS FOR MEMBERS OF THE SRI LANKA SOCIETY OF TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS

“Members of the society being Transport and Logistics (T&L) Professionals are expected to perform their professional activities according to the following Code of Ethics at all times.”

Code of Ethics

Clause 1: - Members, shall hold paramount the safety, health and welfare of the public and optimal utilization of limited resources in the performance of their professional duties. It shall take precedence in their responsibility to the profession, and not to sectoral or private interests, not to employees or not to other fellow professionals.

As the first requirement, places the interests of the public and society above all others. Transport and Logistics Professionals;

Rule 1.1 shall be objective and truthful in professional reports, statements, evidence or testimony. They shall include all relevant information in such reports, statements, evidence or testimony.

Rule 1.2 shall endeavor at all times to maintain professional services essential to public welfare.

Rule 1.3 shall work in conformity with recognized professional standards so as not to jeopardize the public welfare, health and safety.

Rule 1.4 shall not participate in assignments and debates that would create conflict of interest between their clients or employers and the public.

Rule 1.5 shall in their judgment being over – ruled in matters pertaining to welfare, health or safety of the community, inform their clients or employers of the possible consequences and bring to their notice their professional obligations as a professional, to inform in turn the relevant authority.

Rule 1.6 shall contribute to public discussion on professional matters in their areas of competence, if they consider that by doing so, they can constructively advance the well- being of the community.

Rule 1.7 having knowledge of any violation of this Code, shall cooperate with the proper authorities in furnishing such information or assistance as may be required.

Rule 1.8 Shall not knowingly participate in any act which will result in waste or misappropriation of public funds.

Clause 2: - Members, shall always act in such a manner as to uphold and enhance the honor, integrity and dignity of the profession, while safeguarding public interest at all times.

This requires that the profession should endeavor by behavior of its professionals to merit the highest esteem of the community. It follows therefore that T&L Professionals;

Rule 2.1 shall not involve themselves with any business or professional practice which they know to be fraudulent or dishonest in nature.

Rule 2.2 Shall not use links or form associations with persons, corporations or partnerships to conceal unethical acts or practices.

Rule 2.3 shall not continue in partnership with, or act in professional matters with any professional who has been removed from membership of this Society due to improper conduct or failure to abide by the code.

Clause 3: - Members, shall build their reputation on merit and shall not compete unfairly and unjustifiably among members.

This requirement is to ensure that professionals shall not seek to gain a benefit by improper means. It follows that T&L Professionals;

Rule 3.1 shall neither pay nor offer, directly or indirectly, inducements including political contributions by way of money or gifts of any nature.

Rule 3.2 shall promote the principle of engagement of professionals upon the basis of merit. They shall uphold the principle of adequate and appropriate remuneration for professional staff and shall give due consideration to terms of engagement which have the approval of the relevant professional association.

Rule 3.3 shall not attempt to supplant another professional, employed or consulting who has been appointed.

Rule 3.4 shall neither falsify nor misrepresent their own or their associate qualifications, experience and prior responsibilities.

Rule 3.5 shall not maliciously do anything to injure, directly, or indirectly, the reputation, prospects or business of others.

Rule 3.6 shall not use the advantage of a privileged position to compete unfairly with other professionals.

Rule 3.7 shall exercise due restraint in explaining their own work and shall refrain from unfair criticism of the work of other professionals.

Rule 3.8 shall give proper credit for professional work to those to whom credit is due and acknowledge the contribution of subordinates and others.

Clause 4: - Members, shall perform professional services only in areas of their competencies.

In fulfilling this T&L Professionals;

Rule 4.1 shall undertake assignments or projects only when qualified by education and experience in the specific technical fields that they are involved. If an assignment or project requires qualifications and experience outside their fields of competence, they shall engage competent professionals with appropriate qualifications and experience and keep the employers and clients informed of such arrangement.

Rule 4.2 shall not set affix their signature to any reports or documents dealing with subject matter in which they lack competence, or to any report or document not prepared under their direction or control.

Clause 5: - Members, shall apply their skills and knowledge in the interest of their employer or client for whom they shall act, in professional matters, as faithful agents or trustees, so far as they do not conflict with other requirements listed in this clause and the general public interest.

It follows that T&L Professionals;

- Rule 5.1 shall at all times avoid all known or potential conflicts of interest. They should keep their employers or clients fully informed on all matters, including financial interests, which could lead to such a conflict, and in no circumstances should they participate in any decision which could involve them in conflict of interest.
- Rule 5.2 shall when acting as administrators of a contract is impartial as between the parties in the interpretation of the contract documents. This requirement of impartiality shall not diminish the duty of professionals to apply their skills and knowledge in the interests of their employers or clients.
- Rule 5.3 shall not accept compensation, from more than one party financial or otherwise from more than one party for services on the same assignment or project, unless the circumstances are fully disclosed and agreed to, by all interested parties.
- Rule 5.4 shall neither solicit nor accept financial or other valuable consideration, including free professional advice or proposals, from material and equipment suppliers for specifying their products (except such advice or proposals obtained with the knowledge and consent of the employer or client)
- Rule 5.5 shall neither solicit nor accept gratuities, directly or indirectly from contractors or their agents, or other parties dealing with their clients or employers in connection with work performed.
- Rule 5.6 shall advise their clients or employers when as a result of their studies they believe that a project will not be viable.
- Rule 5.7 shall neither disclose nor use confidential information gained in the course of their employment without express permission (except where public interest and safety are involved).
- Rule 5.8 shall not complete sign or seal documents pertaining to professional assignments that are not safe to public health and welfare, and also having a negative environmental impact. Shall also ensure that these documents are of acceptable professional standards. If however, the client or employer insists on such unprofessional conduct, they shall notify the proper authorities and withdraw from further service on the project.

Clause 6: Members, shall give evidence, express opinions or make statements in an objective, truthful and conscious manner.

It follows that-

Rule 6.1 T& L Professionals statements, professional reports, evidence or testimony before any tribunal shall be objective and such opinions shall be expressed only on the basis of adequate knowledge and professional competence in the area, but this does not preclude a considered speculation based intuitively on experience and wide relevant knowledge.

Rule 6.2 T&L professional shall reveal the existence of any interest, pecuniary or otherwise that could be taken to affect their judgment in a professional matter on which they are making a statement or giving evidence.

Clause 7: - Members, shall continue their professional development throughout their careers and shall actively assist and encourage fellow professionals to advance their knowledge and experience.

The requirement here is that T&L Professionals shall strive to widen their knowledge and improve their skill in order to achieve a continuing improvement of the profession. It follows that T&L professional;

Rule 7.1 shall encourage their professional employees and subordinates to further their education.

Rule 7.2 shall take a positive interest and encourage their fellow professionals actively to support the Society and other Professional bodies which further the general interest of the profession, in Sri Lanka or Overseas.