

PROBATION AND COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

Code of Ethics

Upon applying to join PACCOA, each applicant undertakes to be bound by our Code of Ethics as follows:

PRINCIPLES OF PRACTICE

- Each member of this Association holds that they will respect the inherent dignity and worth of every human being and seek to ensure that, within the scope of their work, human and civil liberties are safeguarded.
- The Association expects of its members unfailing honesty, respect for the dignity and individuality of human beings, and a commitment to professional and compassionate service. In pursuit of these goals, members will:
 - Treat colleagues and others supportively and with courtesy and fairness;
 - Respect the importance of all elements of the criminal justice system and cultivate professional relationships;
 - Adhere to lawful requirements of privacy and confidentiality in discharging their professional duty;
 - Be diligent in recording information upon which decisions are made;
 - Help offenders to increase their range of legitimate options and encourage them to take responsibility for their own actions;
 - Maintain the integrity of private information; They will not seek personal data beyond that needed to perform their responsibilities;
 - Report without reservation, any corrupt or unethical behavior discovered in the course of their professional duties;
 - Not use their official capacity in any matter in which they have a personal interest;
 - Recognize the importance of community protection, public safety and the rights of victims of crime;
 - Not to promote any partisan political process;
 - Not accept any gift or favor to imply an obligation that is inconsistent with their professional responsibilities;
 - When conducting research and information analysis ensure objectivity, verification and a balanced approach;

- Avoid significant personal or business relationships with offenders they supervise. Sexual relationships with offenders they supervise, or have supervised are unethical;
- Accept that education, training, support and supervision are basic to their work and hold themselves responsible for the standard of their work with offenders;
- Respect the privacy of offenders and hold information obtained in the course of professional service in confidence, except where the law demands otherwise or there are ethical or moral reasons not to do so.