



## General Membership Policies

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- 1) Each member agrees to adhere to the LEGUS Service Standards to provide referred clients timely and quality legal services at a competitive rate by lawyers knowledgeable in the applicable area. Member firms receiving referrals must acknowledge the referrals to the referring firms and the client within 24 hours of receipt of the referral. Member firms also agree to regularly communicate with all clients concerning the status of their matter. Members are obligated to communicate fees, in writing, to clients either before or within a reasonable time after the initial engagement.
- 2) Each firm is obligated to maintain an effective conflict avoidance system. Conflicts must be addressed immediately and according to the applicable rules of professional responsibility.
- 3) Each firm is obligated to provide LEGUS Administration with permission to use logos for use on the LEGUS website, the LEGUS Law Communiqué, and/or any other promotional material.
- 4) All members are committed to responding to reasonable requests for relevant management and legal specialty information.
- 5) Each firm is obligated to maintain professional liability insurance.
- 6) All member firms recognize the need for continuing legal education and will maintain a continuing program of legal education for all lawyers and, as appropriate, for law related support staff.
- 7) Member firms may terminate membership by giving 60 days written notice. The LEGUS Board of Directors reserves the right to terminate the membership of any member for violation of these membership policies effective upon written notice or, without cause or reason upon 60 days written notice of a vote of 60% of the Advisory Board.
- 8) Membership in LEGUS does not create an agency, partnership, joint venture, franchise or fiduciary relationship between member firms and LEGUS and/or its members. LEGUS does

not practice law. Legal services rendered by member firms are rendered in the name of the member's name only and not in the name of LEGUS. LEGUS shall not receive any compensation of any kind for facilitating referrals.

- 9) All members of LEGUS shall be governed by all applicable rules of professional conduct within their jurisdiction and those rules supersede any LEGUS rules of conduct. In particular, members should not disclose any privileged information, except as expressly or impliedly authorized by a member's clients, or as required or permitted by law or applicable provisions of codes of professional responsibility or ethical rules governing members' conduct as lawyers.
- 10) Members of LEGUS agree that to gain the full benefit of and to encourage frank and informative discussions among the members, the ideas, stories, issues, concerns and information exchanged between and among members are confidential to members and LEGUS and are not to be disclosed to non-members except with the permission of the author(s) and/or source(s). This obligation of confidentiality also extends to materials provided by members in connection with LEGUS programs or otherwise provided to LEGUS at the request of LEGUS for the benefit of members.
- 11) If a LEGUS member receives a referral from another LEGUS member, it is under no obligation to relax its firm policies when accepting that referral.
- 12) These Policies and the Bylaws are subject to and governed by the laws of the State of Michigan. Each member agrees to submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the State Courts of the State of Michigan for the resolution of any disputes with LEGUS, its members, officers, directors, board members, or members of the advisory board, or any other committee of LEGUS.
- 13) No member can make or pursue any claim of any nature against any other LEGUS Member or against any officer, director, board member, advisory board member or Member of any committee of LEGUS with respect to member's membership or activities with LEGUS.
- 14) Any member seeking to make a claim against LEGUS shall be limited in damages to a sum no greater than the annual dues actually paid to LEGUS in the year in which it makes any such claim.
- 15) All members agree to adhere to the LEGUS Member Commitment.

By becoming a member of LEGUS your Firm agrees to subscribe to and abide by the General Membership Policies and ethical code of LEGUS.

Please sign below and return to Sandra Boyer at LEGUS.

Signature\_\_\_\_\_

Name Printed\_\_\_\_\_

Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

Contact person for member firm: we hereby accept membership of LEGUS under the terms of its Bylaws and the above stated policies.

08/04/2020