

ETHICS ADVISORY PANEL  
Opinion #93-13, Request #343  
Issued March 15, 1993

An attorney requests guidance regarding the propriety of serving as general counsel for a Rhode Island based insurance company. The insurance company has offices in all fifty states. The attorney is licensed to practice in two states but is not licensed to practice law in Rhode Island. The attorney states that the company utilizes Rhode Island counsel for litigation and other matters. However, the attorney would like to provide guidance to the insurance company concerning the legal obligations or limitations imposed on the company by law and regulations.

Pursuant to the Panel rules, the Panel "shall accept requests from any member of the Rhode Island Bar in good standing concerning his or her prospective conduct as an attorney under the Rules of Professional conduct. . . ". Rule 2, Rules of the Rhode Island Supreme Court Ethics Advisory Panel. The Panel declines to respond to the inquiry but refers the attorney to the Rhode Island General Laws, specifically the statute governing The Unauthorized Practice of Law.