

ETHICS ADVISORY PANEL
Opinion #93-28, Request #361
Issued May 12, 1993

An attorney asks whether a suspended attorney may accept employment as a legal assistant or paralegal in a law firm.

The Panel directs the inquiring attorney to Provisional Order 18 entitled "Use of Legal Assistants" which has been in effect since February 1, 1983. This order enumerates a list of functions which a legal assistant may participate in. Item 10 of this list provides:

A lawyer shall not use or employ as a legal assistant any attorney who has been suspended or disbarred pursuant to an order of this court, or an attorney who has resigned in this or any other jurisdiction for reasons related to a breach of ethical conduct.

See also, Ethics Advisory Opinion #90-12, Request #78, Issued February 27, 1990.

Pursuant to this Provisional Order, the attorney may not hire a suspended attorney as a paralegal or assistant in the law firm.