

ETHICS ADVISORY PANEL
Opinion #93-34, Request #368
Issued May 12, 1993

An attorney was recently transferred from an out of state office, to an affiliated office in Rhode Island. The attorney is General Counsel in the organization but does not possess a license to practice law in Rhode Island. The attorney would like to participate in contract negotiations, arbitration disputes and other legal matters on behalf of this company within Rhode Island. The attorney asks whether the above described functions would constitute the unauthorized practice of law.

The Panel declines to render an advisory opinion in this matter because the Panel can only accept requests and render opinions to those attorneys who are members of the Rhode Island Bar in good standing. See, Rules of the Rhode Island Supreme Court, Ethics Advisory Panel, Rule 2. Jurisdiction. However, the Panel cautions the inquiring attorney regarding the Rhode Island General Law on the Unauthorized Practice of Law Statute, and Rule 5.5 entitled "Unauthorized Practice of Law" found in the Rhode Island Rules of Professional Conduct.