

Final

**ETHICS ADVISORY PANEL
OPINION NO. 96-30, REQUEST NO. 691
Issued November 14, 1996**

FACTS:

The inquiring attorney believes that the conduct of two former government attorneys who are now partners in private practice violates Rule 1.11(a) of the Rhode Island Supreme Court Rules of Professional Conduct.

ISSUE PRESENTED:

The inquiring attorney asks whether he/she is required under Rule 8.3 to report the conduct of the two attorneys.

OPINION and REASONING:

The inquiring attorney is not required to report a violation of Rule 1.11(a), unless the inquiring attorney makes a subjective determination that the violation raises a substantial question as to the attorneys' honesty, trustworthiness or fitness to practice law. See Rule 8.3(a).

In his/her request, the inquiring attorney described the specific conduct of the two attorneys and also asked the Panel whether the conduct was violative of Rule 1.11. Because that part of the request seeks an opinion about the conduct of lawyers other than the inquiring attorney, the Panel declines to render an advisory opinion on that question. See Rhode Island Ethics Advisory Panel Rule 2(a).