

Alabama Society Sons of the American Revolution Code of Ethics

General Statement of Commitment and Policy

The purpose of this Code is to provide a guideline with respect to our relationship and dealings with fellow compatriots and in the conduct of business of the Alabama Society.

All members of the board of managers, and volunteers serving on committees, or otherwise associated with the Alabama Society are committed to conducting the organization's business with the highest standards of integrity and personal conduct.

Exceptions to this code have to be approved by the Board of Managers. All members of the state society acknowledge that no ethics policy can address all specific situations; therefore the suggestion of a possibility of conflict not believed to be covered by this policy may be brought to the attention of the organization.

Definitions and Guidelines

All members should avoid the appearance as well as any actual conflict with regard to:

- using the association with the organization for private gain;
- acceptance of gifts, entertainment, honoraria, or gratuities for themselves, their families or friends from organizations and entities outside the Alabama Society or other elements of the Sons of the American Revolution, unless engaged in fulfillment of the purposes of the Sons of the American Revolution;
- preferential treatment to any outside person or organization;
- impeding the efficiency or economy of the organization;
- affecting the public confidence in the integrity or the reputation of the organization; and,
- endangering the life, health or safety of anyone.

Members are to be circumspect in regard to direct or indirect interest in or direct relationship with other organizations, primarily for profit entities, or persons associated with such organizations, that might affect (or that might reasonably be understood or misunderstood by others as affecting) the objectivity or independence of his judgment or conduct in carrying out the duties and responsibilities he has in connection with Alabama Society activities. Examples of such a relationship or circumstances are:

- material and direct personal involvement with, but not limited to the examples of, suppliers or investment entities;
- ownership of a material interest in such a supplier or entity;
- acceptance of material payments, services or loans from an entity;
- ownership of property affected by the organization's actions or acquired as a result of confidential information; and,
- such relationship or interest/involvement that requires the improper divulging of the Alabama Society's data to other civic, professional or political organizations.

(As noted above that all situations can not be defined, specific examples of “improper” are not further provided/listed.)

A conflict of interest is not considered unethical if an individual has no actual knowledge of such a relationship or involvement.

In addition to unethical conduct as given in the above examples, members of the Alabama Society are governed by general standards of behavior and actions and therefore cautioned against making scandalous and/or defamatory remarks orally or in publications; or, actions and behavior of an objectionable and detrimental manner to the organization. Such actions and behavior is defined by their tendency to injure the good name of the society, disturb its well-being, or hamper it in its work. Because of the litigious nature of defamatory remarks when directed by name against an individual, such actions are outside these defined actions and behavior.

Complaints of unethical behavior, conduct, or actions must be substantiated by factual information. Members should not engage in or condone behavior that is designed to deceive others, including but not limited to, making misleading or false statements, stating half-truths, providing information out of context or withholding information that, if known, would render our statements as misleading or incomplete. The Alabama Society may take disciplinary action against an individual who retaliates against a person raising ethics concerns.

Improper Use of Information

Members are prohibited from using organizational information for personal gain.

Disclosure

Individual members, as opposed to non-members or a group of members, are responsible to make known what they believe to be an instance of ethical misconduct or actions and behavior of an objectionable and detrimental manner to the Alabama Society. Members should decide to report such violations in accordance with this Code and their own ethical opinions and standards of integrity and views on personal conduct.

Improper Use of Assets and Record Keeping

All members have a fiduciary responsibility to prevent the loss, damage, misuse or theft of property, records, funds or other assets belonging to the Alabama Society, including restricting the use of such assets to the business of the organization.

The use of organizational funds for direct or indirect political contribution is specifically prohibited.

Accounting Records and Reports

Members in financial related positions should adhere to generally accepted accounting principles, applicable laws and regulations, and an internal accounting control system of either of an automated or manual nature, and which includes audited financial reports.