



2024 UT Land Use Conference

Believe it or not, Ethics do exist in land use!

Prepared and presented by:

George E. Hyde, Managing Partner, Hyde Kelley

The presentation is intended to address the variety of ethical rules which come into play in the land use, development, and economic development space. It will address the ethics of the attorneys, the elected and appointed officials; city management; city and consulting land planners; city and consulting civil engineers; and of course, the developers themselves, who are involved. During the presentation, we will deconstruct the challenges facing each, to reveal a path forward that finds the “sweet spot” where all those involved can participate in the space ethically and avoiding put others players in unethical situations by creating ethical challenges in the performance of the work being done in the same land use space.

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Preparer and Presenter



George Hyde is the Managing Partner at Hyde Kelley LLP. He leads a dynamic group of highly capable, cost-conscious attorneys and professional staff, who together provide preeminent legal representation and advice, born out of their many years of education and decades of legal experience. The firm offers a comprehensive range of legal services, to a focused client base of municipalities, local governments, economic development corporations, local government corporations, special districts, non-profit corporations and select for-profit companies. Mr. Hyde is further an accomplished trial and appellate litigation attorney, representing clients in all state and federal courts in Texas, all Texas appellate courts and the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, and is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court. He has counseled clients on land use, negotiated land use agreements, written local land use ordinances, and litigated land use disputes in both state and federal court for over 20 years.

George, and his wife and law partner Caroline Kelley, live in the Austin area and each have two children and two stepchildren. George's oldest, Danielle Elaine Hyde, DPT, is a practicing Physical Therapist in San Antonio. His youngest, Jonathan Edward Hyde, P.E., is a structural engineer employed by NUCOR, "North America's most sustainable steel and steel products company" and practices engineering as a Design Supervisor in Columbus, Georgia.

Caroline's oldest, Caelin Kelley, earned her bachelor's degree in multi-media, is currently pregnant and preparing for her first child. She is married to Dakota Partain, P.E. and lives in Allen, Texas. Caroline's youngest, Joshua Pearsey, works as a Certified Professional Accountant. After spending seven (7) successful years with Deloitte, which is considered one of the "Big Four" accounting firms in the world, he accepted an offer from another Dallas area CPA accounting firm, and lives in the Dallas area.

For more information on George's and Caroline's law practice, feel free to go to www.txlocalgovlaw, or call 512-686-0700 to make an appointment.



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This is what I am routinely asked to do when preparing a Code of Ethics.

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"Believe It or Not, Ethics do Exist in Land Use!"