

The Ethical Traps of Joint Representations

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26th Annual Advanced Patent Law Institute
Austin, Texas Nov 4, 2021

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Joint Representations



- Co-defendants
- Indemnitor and indemnitee
- Licensor and licensee
- Supplier and customer
- Company and employee
- Joint venture partners
- Manufacturer and distributor
- Partners

Traps for the Unwary

- Disclosure
- Scope
- Conflicts (and reevaluation)
- Privileges and confidences
- Settlement



There's always a risk

Joint representation always presents the potential for **a conflict of interest.**



Follow the rules



- **Texas Disciplinary Rules Of Professional Conduct**
- Other states' rules
- Local rules
- When in doubt, follow the ABA Model Rules

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A Lawyer's Responsibilities

- Advisor
- Advocate
- Negotiator
- Intermediary



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Title search: The Ethical Traps of Joint Representations in IP Cases

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the
2022 First Friday Ethics (April 2022) session

"The Ethical Traps of Joint Representations in IP Cases (REPLAY)"