

**CHAPTER 19. CENTER FOR PROFESSIONALISM**  
**RULE 19-1.1 PURPOSE**

This rule is adopted in recognition of the importance of professionalism as the ultimate hallmark of the practice of law. The purpose of this rule is to create a center to identify and enunciate non-mandatory standards of professional conduct and encourage adherence thereto. These standards should involve aspirations higher than those required by the Rules of Professional Conduct.

Added Sept. 24, 1998, effective Oct. 1, 1998 (718 So.2d 1179).

**RULE 19-1.2 RESPONSIBILITY AND AUTHORITY**

The center's responsibilities and authority shall be to:

- (a) consider efforts by lawyers and judges to improve the administration of justice;
- (b) examine ways of educating the public about the system of justice;
- (c) monitor and coordinate Florida's professionalism efforts in such institutional settings as its bar, courts, law schools, and law firms;
- (d) monitor professionalism efforts in jurisdictions outside Florida;
- (e) provide guidance and support to the continuing legal education department in its implementation and execution of the continuing legal education professionalism requirement;
- (f) help implement a professionalism component of the basic skills course requirement;
- (g) make recommendations to the supreme court and The Florida Bar concerning additional means by which professionalism can be enhanced;
- (h) receive and administer gifts and grants; and
- (i) assist in the implementation of the current professionalism enhancement program as it relates to professionalism issues.

Added Sept. 24, 1998, effective Oct. 1, 1998 (718 So.2d 1179).

**RULE 19-1.3 FUNDING**

Funding for the center on professionalism shall be from The Florida Bar general fund and in such amounts as shall be established by the board of governors.

Added Sept. 24, 1998, effective Oct. 1, 1998 (718 So.2d 1179).

#### **RULE 19-1.4 STAFFING, OPERATION, AND REPORTING STRUCTURE**

The center shall be staffed by employees of The Florida Bar.

The physical location of the center shall be determined by the board of governors and the operation and reporting structure of the center shall be consistent with other Florida Bar programs.

Added Sept. 24, 1998, effective Oct. 1, 1998 (718 So.2d 1179).

#### **RULE 19-1.5 RELATIONSHIP TO THE SUPREME COURT COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONALISM**

The commission on professionalism has been established by administrative order of the Supreme Court of Florida and has been charged with the planning and implementation of an ongoing plan and policy to ensure that the fundamental ideals and values of the justice system and the legal profession are inculcated in all of those persons serving or seeking to serve in the system.

The center shall endeavor to assist the commission in this regard consistent with the center's funding, staffing, operational, and reporting structure.

Added Sept. 24, 1998, effective Oct. 1, 1998 (718 So.2d 1179).