

1 Rule 6.3. Membership in Legal Services Organization.

2 A lawyer may serve as a director, officer or member of a legal services organization,
3 apart from the law firm in which the lawyer practices, notwithstanding that the
4 organization serves persons having interests adverse to a client of the lawyer. The
5 lawyer shall not knowingly participate in a decision or action of the organization:

6 (a) If participation in the decision would be incompatible with the lawyer's obligations
7 to a client under Rule 1.7; or

8 (b) Where the decision could have a material adverse effect on the representation of
9 a client of the organization whose interests are adverse to a client of the lawyer or on
10 the representation of a client of the lawyer or the lawyer's firm.

11 Comment

12 [\[1\]](#) Lawyers should be encouraged to support and participate in legal service
13 organizations. A lawyer who is an officer or a member of such an organization does not
14 thereby have a client-lawyer relationship with persons served by the organization.
15 However, there is potential conflict between the interests of such persons and the
16 interests of the lawyer's clients. If the possibility of such conflict disqualified a lawyer
17 from serving on the board of a legal services organization, the profession's involvement
18 in such organizations would be severely curtailed.

19 [\[2\]](#) It may be necessary in appropriate cases to reassure a client of the organization
20 that the representation will not be affected by conflicting loyalties of a member of the
21 board. Established, written policies in this respect can enhance the credibility of such
22 assurances.

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