

**1      Rule 15-605. Imposition of sanctions.**

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3      Absent aggravating or mitigating circumstances, upon application of the factors set out in  
4      Rule 15-604 of this Article, the following sanctions are generally appropriate.

5      (a) Decensure. Decensure is generally appropriate when a licensed paralegal practitioner:

6      (a)(1) knowingly engages in professional misconduct as defined in Rule 8.4(a), (d), (e), or (f)  
7      of the Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Rules of Professional Conduct with the intent to benefit  
8      the licensed paralegal practitioner or another or to deceive the court, and causes serious or  
9      potentially serious injury to a party, the public, or the legal system, or causes serious or  
10     potentially serious interference with a legal proceeding; or

11     (a)(2) engages in serious criminal conduct, a necessary element of which includes intentional  
12     interference with the administration of justice, false swearing, misrepresentation, fraud,  
13     extortion, misappropriation, or theft; or the sale, distribution, or importation of controlled  
14     substances; or the intentional killing of another; or an attempt or conspiracy or solicitation of  
15     another to commit any of these offenses; or

16     (a)(3) engages in any other intentional misconduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or  
17     misrepresentation that seriously adversely reflects on the licensed paralegal practitioner's fitness  
18     to practice law as a licensed paralegal practitioner.

19     (b) Suspension. Suspension is generally appropriate when a licensed paralegal practitioner:

20     (b)(1) knowingly engages in professional misconduct as defined in Rule 8.4(a), (d), (e), or (f)  
21     of the Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Rules of Professional Conduct and causes injury or  
22     potential injury to a party, the public, or the legal system, or causes interference or potential  
23     interference with a legal proceeding; or

24     (b)(2) engages in criminal conduct that does not contain the elements listed in Rule 15-  
25     605(a)(2) but nevertheless seriously adversely reflects on the licensed paralegal practitioner's  
26     fitness to practice law as a licensed paralegal practitioner.

27     (c) Reprimand. Reprimand is generally appropriate when a licensed paralegal practitioner:

28     (c)(1) negligently engages in professional misconduct as defined in Rule 8.4(a), (d), (e), or (f)  
29     of the Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Rules of Professional Conduct and causes injury to a party,  
30     the public, or the legal system, or causes interference with a legal proceeding; or

31        (c)(2) engages in any other misconduct that involves dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or  
32        misrepresentation and that adversely reflects on the licensed paralegal practitioner's fitness to  
33        practice law as a licensed paralegal practitioner.

34        (d) Admonition. Admonition is generally appropriate when a licensed paralegal practitioner:  
35        (d)(1) negligently engages in professional misconduct as defined in Rule 8.4(a), (d), (e), or  
36        (f) of the Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Rules of Professional Conduct and causes little or no  
37        injury to a party, the public, or the legal system or interference with a legal proceeding, but  
38        exposes a party, the public, or the legal system to potential injury or causes potential interference  
39        with a legal proceeding; or  
40        (d)(2) engages in any professional misconduct not otherwise identified in this rule that  
41        adversely reflects on the licensed paralegal practitioner's fitness to practice law as a licensed  
42        paralegal practitioner.