

Rule 6.3. Membership in Legal Services Organization.

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

6 (a) If participation in the decision would be incompatible with the licensed paralegal
7 practitioner’s obligations to a client under Rule 1.7 of the Rules of Professional Conduct for
8 Licensed Paralegal Practitioners; or

9 (b) Where the decision could have a material adverse effect on the representation of a client
10 of the organization whose interests are adverse to a client of the licensed paralegal practitioner or
11 on the representation of a client of the licensed paralegal practitioner or the licensed paralegal
12 practitioner’s firm.

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14 Comment

15 [1] Licensed paralegal practitioners should be encouraged to support and participate in legal
16 service organizations. A licensed paralegal practitioner who is an officer or a member of such an
17 organization does not thereby have a client-licensed paralegal practitioner relationship with
18 persons served by the organization. However, there is potential conflict between the interests of
19 such persons and the interests of the licensed paralegal practitioner's clients. If the possibility of
20 such conflict disqualified a licensed paralegal practitioner from serving on the board of a legal
21 services organization, the profession's involvement in such organizations would be severely
22 curtailed.

23 [2] It may be necessary in appropriate cases to reassure a client of the organization that the
24 representation will not be affected by conflicting loyalties of a member of the board. Established,
25 written policies in this respect can enhance the credibility of such assurances.

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