

Pennsylvania Association of Building Code Officials

Member Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct

My fundamental beliefs:

As a member of the Pennsylvania Association of Building Code Officials (PABCO), I hold paramount the health, welfare and safety of the public with regards to the built environment, including housing, commercial, institutional and industrial buildings and structures, whether new or existing. In the exercise of authority and in the performance of duties to ensure building safety, I commit to the highest standards of behavior, enforcement, honesty and integrity. As a member of PABCO, I advocate for high standards of professionalism and conduct, and I personally subscribe to the following core beliefs of professional and ethical behavior:

I certify that I will:

1. Extend professional courtesy during the performance of my duties.
2. Treat the public as my employer.
3. Focus on the intent of the code and to encourage voluntary compliance before taking punitive action.
4. Cooperate with architects, contractors and permit applicants and to offer explanations when asked.
5. Explain why work may be rejected and to provide appropriate references to codes and standards on which any rejection may be based.
6. Never solicit or accept bribes, gifts, favors or gratuities.
7. Never allow loyalty to colleagues, superiors or subordinates to come ahead of my professional responsibilities.
8. Deal equitably with all clients and customers and to refer them to another professional if I am concerned about my ability to treat them fairly or without prejudice.
9. Confer regularly with colleagues in order to work towards the highest degree of consistency possible in code enforcement activities.
10. Stay updated and educated on the latest building practices, municipal ordinances and adopted codes that affect the performance of my duties.
11. Maintain current certifications and accreditations to lawfully perform my duties.
12. Understand my professional limitations based on the degree of my knowledge, training, experience and certifications.
13. Act in accordance with the by-laws, policies and procedures of PABCO, including this Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct.