

## Confidentiality of Communication between Clients and their Patent Advisors

### Honduras

Code of ethics for Honduran legal professionals.

#### Article 23

Lawyers shall uphold attorney-client privilege to the utmost, even after having stopped rendering services to their clients. Lawyers have the right to refuse to testify against their clients and may refrain from answering any questions that would disclose their clients' secrets or violate confidentiality. Lawyers may not communicate to third parties that which comes to their attention in the conduct of their duties or judicial and administrative functions. Attorney-client privilege extends to everything that lawyers discuss with the representatives of the opposing party or that is known to them in their capacity as justice officials or civil servants.

#### Article 24

The obligation to uphold attorney-client privilege shall extend to secrets revealed by third parties to lawyers in the conduct of their duties and to those arising from conversations necessary to reach a settlement, even where such settlement is not reached. The same shall apply to information provided confidentially by colleagues.

Lawyers shall not intervene in matters that may lead them to reveal confidential information, nor use any such information obtained in the conduct of their duties for their own benefit or that of their clients, except with the prior written consent of the source of such information. The same shall apply to confidential information made known to lawyers by associates, employees or dependents of the latter.