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**§ 6.2****Do ABA Rules Apply to Paralegals?***No. And Yes*

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The ABA Rules of Ethics apply only to attorneys. The ABA is a private organization and can only sanction members, although most states have adopted versions of the rules to cover attorneys within their jurisdictions. Although paralegals may not be punished directly for a violation of the rules, the attorney supervising the paralegal may be punished as if he had committed the act himself.

All staff under the supervision of an attorney must adhere to the rules outlined below. While the ABA has no authority over a paralegal directly, your attorney may fire you for putting him or her in a position of having to defend your possibly unethical conduct.

