



## *THE ROLE OF THE AFP ETHICS COMMITTEE*

The committee views itself as a vehicle through which AFP promotes responsible and ethical behavior by its members and those holding AFP certification. To that end, the committee undertakes to:

- Educate members and other professionals about the code.
- Educate members about ethical issues within the profession.
- Encourage compliance with the code.
- Receive and respond to queries concerning ethics within the profession and the independent sector.
- Receive and respond to complaints alleging violation of the code.
- Effect resolution through education and persuasion whenever possible.
- Sustain acute awareness of the implications of committee action on members, complainants, philanthropy, AFP, the profession *and the public*.
- Provide a fair and responsible hearing to both complainant and individual reported in violation of the code.
- Render judgment based on facts presented.
- Apply sanctions fairly and consistently based on board approved policy.
- Function as resource to AFP and its members and to the public in matters of ethical behavior.
- Develop and recommend standards that address evolving issues affecting ethics within the field.
- Refine the code and professional standards as necessary and appropriate.
- Maintain confidentiality about queries, complaints, and hearings.
- Refrain from participation in cases that constitute personal conflict of interest.
- Maintain as much independence within AFP as necessary for objectivity.
- Recommend candidates for consideration as members of the committee.
- Act as complainant when necessary.
- Act as role models for adherence to the code.
- Educate, in cooperation with appropriate AFP committees, the public about the code and ethical practice within the field.