

# **Complaints Authorization Committee**

## ***Practice Standard***

### **Conflict of Interest**

*Complaints Authorization Committee Meeting  
Benchers' Notes December 1998*

The Complaints Authorization Committee directs members' attention to the conflicts rule prescribed in Chapter V of the Canadian Bar Association Code of Professional Conduct and the commentaries at page 16 through 19 of the 1974 edition of the Code. In particular members are reminded that the rule requires members to inform prospective clients of the potential conflict and to obtain the written consent of the clients.

#### **Chapter V    *Impartiality and Conflict of Interest Between Clients***

*The lawyer shall not advise or represent both sides of a dispute and, save after adequate disclosure to and with the consent of the clients or prospective clients concerned, he should not act or continue to act in a matter when there is or is likely to be a conflicting interest. A conflicting interest is one which would be likely to affect adversely the judgment of the lawyer on behalf of or his loyalty to a client or prospective client or which the lawyer might be prompted to prefer to the interests of a client or prospective client.*