Quality Legal Representation
(from the Client's Perspective)



A Panel Discussion

IMLA Mid-Year Seminar
Washington, DC
April 21, 2024

Our Panel

- **County Board Member: Matthew de Ferranti,** Arlington, VA
- **City Manager: Robert J. Wood,** Rocky Mount, VA
- **Chief of Police: Don Hayes,** Alexandria, VA
- **Assistant City Attorney: Leela Fireside,** Rockville, MD
- **Moderator: Alan Bojorquez,** Austin, TX



ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct

- **Rule 1.1.** Duty of Competence
- **Rule 1.2.** Scope of Representation
- **Rule 1.6.** Confidentiality
- **Rule 1.7.** Conflicts of Interests
- **Rule 1.13** Organization as a Client



Questions to be Addressed

- Who is the client?
- When is a task urgent?
- When to share info & with whom?
- How do we handle Confidential data?
- What is the Lawyer's role?



More Questions

- What is the difference between *personal* opinion & *legal* advice?
- How prepared are clients for engaging legal services?
- Who has authority to direct legal actions?
- How to deal with Conflicts among Client representatives?
- Why a “Municipal Attorney” vs. *any* Lawyer?
- What does City Hall expect from its attorney?





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Thank You, Panelists!