

Presentation to Actuaries' Club of Boston and Actuaries' Club of Hartford and Springfield Joint Meeting 2009 on the Actuarial Board for Counseling and Discipline (ABCD)

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Julia Philips, FSA, MAAA

- **From the ABCD Mission:** "...The ABCD considers complaints and questions concerning possible violations of the Code(s) of Professional Conduct..."
- **Members of the ABCD:** Chairperson Curtis Huntington, Vice Chairpersons Julia Philips and Carol Sears, Members Linda Bell, Paul Fleischacker, Kurt Piper, Bob Rietz, Dick Robertson, and Mike Toothman, who each serve for two three-year terms.
- **Staff Liaison:** Tom Griffin, Senior Attorney (202.223.8196)
<http://www.abcdboard.org>
- **Requests for Guidance (Informal):** Can contact staff attorney first, or any member directly. Most come as phone call or e-mail. Answer is usually prompt and informal. Responder shares question and response only with other Board members and staff.
- **Written Guidance:** With Board agreement, a guidance request can receive a formal written response by the Board. It may be published, with the consent of the requester. A written response may take months, due to the need for review and agreement.
- **Inquiry:** May be initiated based on a written complaint from an identified person or else based on information from a public source.

- **Investigation:** If further investigation is needed, the Chair may appoint an investigator, who prepares a report to the Board.
- **Hearing:** After the investigation, the Board may vote to hold a hearing. After the hearing, the Board makes a decision to dismiss, to counsel, or to recommend discipline to relevant organizations.
- **Discipline:** May be imposed only by one of the five member organizations, not by the ABCD. The ABCD provides guidance, investigates complaints, counsels, mediates, and recommends disciplinary action for consideration by a member organization.
- **Member Organizations:** The American Academy of Actuaries, the American Society of Pension Professionals & Actuaries, the Casualty Actuarial Society, the Conference of Consulting Actuaries, and the Society of Actuaries. (Also serves the Canadian Institute of Actuaries for practice by its members in the U.S.).
- **Publications:** Public documents are available on the website, www.abcdboard.org. Regular column in Contingencies magazine, "Up to Code," has been published since 2006.
- **Discussion Questions:**
 1. When should an actuary "complain" to the ABCD?
 2. How much documentation do you need of your qualifications? Of your work?
 3. How much can you rely on your boss?
 4. How much can you rely on your coworkers?
 5. How familiar do you have to be with the ASOPs?
 6. How do you withdraw a previous actuarial opinion?
 7. How can you become qualified in a new or combined area of practice?
 8. When do you have to refuse an assignment or request from your employer?