

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT HANDBOOK

Published under the authority of the Benchers
for the guidance of members of the Law Society of
British Columbia

Published by the Law Society of British Columbia

Reprinted May, 1988

PART A
CANONS OF LEGAL ETHICS

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PRESENTATION TO THE COURT

The *Legal Profession Act*, section 28(5) states:

Every barrister who is called to the Bar of the Province and every solicitor who is admitted as a solicitor of the Supreme Court shall, before he begins the practice of law, sign the barristers' roll or solicitors' roll, as the case may be, and take in open court, before one or more of the judges of the Supreme Court, an oath in a form set by the benchers.

Candidates will be presented to the Court in the following manner.

- (a) Candidates will take position before the Officer of the Court from right to left in the order listed.
- (b) Candidates will remain standing throughout the entire ceremony.
- (c) A Bencher will present candidates to the Court.
- (d) The Officer of the Court will then administer the Oath of Allegiance as below.

"Do you swear (or affirm) that you will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, Queen of Canada, her heirs and successors according to law?"

Holding the Bible in the right hand, candidates will reply, "I so swear, so help me God", or "I affirm", as the case may be.

- (e) The Secretary of the Law Society will then administer the Barristers' and Solicitors' Oath as below.

"Do you sincerely promise and swear (or affirm) that you will diligently, faithfully and to the best of your ability execute the offices of Barrister and Solicitor; that you will not promote suits upon frivolous pretences; that you will not pervert the law to favour or prejudice anyone; but in all things conduct yourself truly and with integrity; and that you will uphold the Sovereign's interest and that of your fellow citizens according to the laws of Canada and this Province?"

Again holding the Bible in the right hand candidates will reply, "I so swear, so help me God", or "I affirm", as the case may be.

- (f) Candidates will remain standing until the Judge indicates that the Court be adjourned.