

## **Australian Fire Association**

## **Preamble**

The Australia Fire Association (AFA) goal is to safeguard the integrity of the fire safety profession as well as protecting the general community. A Code of Ethics is essential for setting and maintaining the expected standards of ethical behaviour within the fire safety profession. Professionalism embodies the values and skills that the fire safety profession and society expects of fire safety practitioners. Australia Fire Association (AFA) Members Code of Ethics is designed to outline the core responsibilities of Members of the AFA in meeting professionalism and assisting the AFA with its goal.

## **Members Code of Ethics**

AFA Members must act in accordance with this Members Code of Ethics.

AFA Members must act in accordance with all applicable laws.

AFA Members will not bring the either the AFA or the fire safety industry into disrepute.

AFA Members will not make public statements on behalf of the AFA, without written authority of the AFA.

AFA Members may only use any AFA logo with the written consent of the AFA.

AFA Members shall advise their staff and clients as soon as they become aware of any potential or present hazardous condition that may pose a risk to the present or future safety, health or welfare of their staff or their clients staff or any member of the public or the community.

While AFA Members have a primary duty to their clients, they also have responsibilities to the wider community.

AFA Members shall maintain the level of skills and knowledge in their area of practice.

AFA Members shall assist the public's understanding of fire safety.

AFA Members shall perform services only in the area of their skill, knowledge and competence.

AFA Members shall be honest and truthful in presenting information to their clients.

AFA Members shall maintain accurate records and the confidentiality of the client's confidential information.

AFA Members shall set a fair and reasonable fee having regard to the time, skill and experience involved in the performance of services.

AFA Members shall practise fire safety services to the best of your ability, recognising and working within your ability and scope of practice.

AFA Members shall build a professional reputation based on integrity and ability.

AFA Members shall recognise that your personal conduct may affect your reputation and that of your profession.

AFA Members shall continue lifelong professional development to keep your knowledge, skills and performance up to-date and improve your standard of fire safety.

AFA Members shall keep up-to-date on relevant codes of practice and legal responsibilities.

AFA Members shall accept responsibility for maintaining and improving the standards of the profession.

AFA Members shall report suspected unethical or unprofessional conduct by a colleague to the appropriate authority.

AFA Members shall treat other fire safety practitioners, your colleagues and those under your supervision with respect, care and dignity.

AFA Members shall refrain from undertaking actions such as making comments which may unfairly damage the reputation of a colleague.

AFA Members shall recognise your professional limitations and be prepared to refer as appropriate.

AFA Members shall ensure that other fire safety professionals whom may assist in the provision of fire safety services are appropriately qualified.

AFA Members shall ensure your financial or other interests are secondary to your primary duty to community fire safety.

AFA Members shall ensure that any advertisement is demonstrably true in all respects. Advertising should not bring the profession into disrepute.

AFA Members shall participate in activities that contribute to fire safety of the community.

AFA Members shall refrain from entering into any contract which may conflict with your professional autonomy or your primary obligation to your client.

AFA Members shall refuse to carry out services which you consider to be professionally unethical, against your moral convictions, which you consider are not in the best interests of your client.

AFA Members shall participate in risk management, quality assurance and improvement activities.

AFA Members shall accept a share of the profession's responsibility to society in matters relating to the health and safety of the public, fire safety education and legislation affecting the fire safety in the community.

AFA Members shall recognise their responsibility to assist the courts, tribunals (or similar forums) by providing informed, fair opinion based on impartial, expert evidence when reasonably called upon to do so.

AFA Members shall endeavour to improve the standards and quality of fire safety in the community.

AFA Members shall provide services impartially and without discrimination on the basis of age, disease or disability, creed, religion, ethnic origin, gender, nationality, political affiliation, race, sexual orientation, criminal history, social standing or any other similar criteria.

## **Disciplinary Code**

If the CEO of the AFA be considers that you have breached this Code of Ethics, the CEO will provide you a Notice of Termination of Membership with the AFA. After such notice has been provided you will be given 7 days to provide evidence to the Board of the AFA as to why Termination of Membership will not take place. Whether evidence is provided by a member or not the Board of the AFA will meet and decided whether to terminate a person's membership or not. The decision of the Board is final. By applying to be a Member of the AFA a person agrees to these conditions.