

**Ethics, Writing, and “Specialty Credits,”  
like Diversity and Substance Abuse/Mental Health**

*Here’s my list of 1-hour and half-day (3-hour) programs. Each can be delivered in person or virtually*

*Hot topics, 1 hour ethics programs*

Chat GPT, Siri, and Alexa are Out to Get You.

Stuart Teicher, Esq., doesn’t call them “virtual assistants.” He calls them “virtual career killers.” That’s because the use of these devices are fraught with serious ethics issues. And what about generative AI? Is that a career-ending technology? Join the CLE Performer Stuart Teicher, Esq., as he explores the never-ending problems with gene, virtual assistants and related technologies. Rule 1.1, Rule 5.3, and Rule 1.6 discussed.

Taylor Swift is a Genius. Even About Legal Ethics.

Everyone knows that Taylor Swift is a music genius. But she’s made some pretty smart moves in the courtroom too. Join the CLE Performer, Stuart Teicher, Esq., as he talks about how the ethics rules are invoked in some of Taylor Swift’s run ins with the legal system. You don’t have to be a Swiftie to watch the program...but you might end up one when you’re done! Topics include:

- Being awesome at what you do and competence (Rule 1.1)
- Copyright cases and frivolous claims (Rule 3.1)
- Foregoing an FTX deal by doing diligence (Rule 1.3)
- The Ticketmaster debacle and the idea of pro bono work (Rule 6.1)
- Improper behavior and Rule 8.4(g)

The Bad Lawyers of Hollywood: An Ethics Program

Whether it’s fictional lawyers in film, or real lawyers who represent celebrities, a ton of these characters have committed ethical violations. Join the CLE Performer Stuart Teicher as he explores the misdeeds of the real and fake lawyers of Hollywood. Rules addressed include 1.5 (fees), 8.4 (misconduct) and 1.6 (confidentiality)

The Ethical Dangers of ‘Getting Into Bed’ with Your Clients

Getting a gift from a client? Going into business with a client? Having a relationship with a client? It’s all covered by Rule 1.8. Join the CLE performer as he explains how issues of loyalty and confidentiality could arise between lawyer and client.

### Cash, Coin, Cheddar, Dough: Ethical issues with money and billing.

Lawyers make all kinds of mistakes when billing and dealing with client funds. Sometimes they are accidentally, other times more nefarious. Join the CLE Performer, Stuart Teicher, Esq., as he explores these concerns. Rules 1.5, 8.4, and 1.15 will be discussed.

### Infamous People that Shaped the Corporate Law Ethics Rules

The ethics code directly affects many areas of corporate law. It touches on everything from internal investigations, confidentiality, cybersecurity, wondering ‘who is the client’, and supervision. Many lawyers are not aware that these ethics rules originate from, and are illustrated by, the actions of some infamous people, including Bernie Madoff, Charlie Sheen, and Enron leadership, to name a few. Come join Stuart Teicher, Esq., as he discusses privilege, the “two hats” issue, and some quirks posed by a post-COVID world.

### *Half day/3 hour programs*

The program above, Chat GPT, Siri, and Alexa are Out to Get You can be done in a half-day length as well

### Exit Row Ethics: What Rude Airline Travel Stories Teach About Attorney Ethics

Stuart Teicher has traveled the world as a professional legal educator and he’s seen all kinds of bad behavior. Coincidentally, it mirrors a lot of the bad behavior he’s seen as an attorney ethics investigator. Join the CLE Performer as he draws parallels between passengers and practitioners and explains key ethics rules that will help every lawyer stay safe in their practice.

Topic discussed include:

- Sneaking into first class and other deceptive tactics (Rule 8.4)
- Leaving the window shade open and other unprofessional behavior reflected in the rules (Rule 1.2)
- Wear your pajamas on the plane, but not in court (professionalism issues)
- Small airplane bottles of booze can lead to large substance abuse problems

### Ethics Lessons from a Jersey Guy

You’ve heard all the stereotypes about New Jersey? Well, some are true, and some not so much. But you might be surprised by how the myths, realities, and Hollywood fictions about the Garden State teach valuable ethics lessons to lawyers. Join the CLE Performer, Stuart Teicher, Esq., as he explains how his home state illustrates critical ethic lessons for lawyers. Topics include:

- The value of keeping your mouth shut (Rule 1.6)
- Communicating with clients safely (Rule 1.4)
- Why every lawyer needs to know the latest about anti-corruption and Rule 1.2

### What my broken nose, Spider-Man, and the Russian invasion teach about conflicts.

Only the CLE performer, Stuart Teicher, can weave together three seemingly unrelated things into a coherent explanation of the rules on conflicts. You’ve got to see it to believe it. Join Stuart as he explains how:

- ...Rule 1.10 is best explained by the time he broke his nose during a pickup basketball game
- ...a hypothetical case about Spider-Man teaches “direct adversity”
- ...Stuart’s crush on a particular entertainer explains Rule 1.7
- ...the Russian Invasion of the Ukraine poses explains the rule on withdrawing.

### Everything I need to know about legal ethics I learned from the Kardashians

You thought the Kardashians were all about bling and nonsense, didn't you? Well they are. But only Stuart Teicher (the "CLE Performer") can teach how they also allow lawyers to learn important lessons about legal ethics. Join Stuart as he explains the importance of confidentiality when dealing with new technologies (Rule 1.6), trial publicity issues (Rule 3.6), the duty to self-report mistakes (Rule 8.3 and 1.4) and much more.

### *More 1-hour ethics programs*

#### Can I Curse? A Lawyer's Guide to Profanity.

Lawyers have been known to shoot their mouths off, and sometimes some swear words might slip through. Have times changed? Is it ok for lawyers to swear these days? Join the CLE Performer, Stuart Teicher, Esq., as he explains the ethical problems with using naughty words. Rule 8.4 and concepts of Professionalism will be explored.

#### What's The Dirtiest Word in Ethics? (Note, this can also be done as a professionalism program)

There's one word that has been used to cover up all manner of sins in the practice of law-- that word is, "zealous". But there's a move these days to eliminate that word from the practice all together. Join "the CLE Performer" Stuart Teicher Esq., as he explains why pushing the boundaries is not the ethical way to practice law. Stuart explains how our brothers and sisters in the practice from years past got us into the current situation and how the new trends in professionalism could show us the way out (Rules 3.1, 3.2, 3.4, 4.4, and more)

#### Why We Lie.

Let's get all up in the heads of our colleagues, shall we? Join the CLE Performer, Stuart Teicher as he (1) explains the rules that deal with attorney misrepresentation, and (2) takes a deeper dive into why lawyers make those ill-fated statements. Rules covered include:

- Lying to a tribunal — Rule 3.3
- Lies about ourselves and our services — Rule 7.1
- Deception and lying — Rule 8.4(c)
- Lying to third parties — Rule 4.1
- Other prohibited statements and Rule 8.1

#### The Ethics of Asking For Work

Soliciting clients can be an ethical minefield. It's so tough to navigate that the ABA issued a new opinion on the subject. Join the CLE Performer Stuart Teicher as he explains the rule on solicitation and also talks about the weird "hybrid" situation that arises when a lawyer talks to a potential client. Specific rules include:

- Rule 7.3 Soliciting Clients
- Rule 7.2 Communicating about lawyer services
- Rule 1.18 Prospective Client relationships.

#### 8 Reasons Movie-Lawyers Would be Disciplined

Attorneys in film are constantly violating the ethics rules. Of course, sometimes those gaffes happen in real life too, and lawyers need to make sure that we don't repeat those mistakes. Join the CLE Performer, Stuart Teicher, Esq., as he explains the sometimes obvious and sometimes subtle ethics violations committed by lawyers in movies and on TV. Topics will include:

- You're out of order! We're all out of order! What's prejudicial to the administration of justice? Rule 8.4(d)
- How fictional lawyers are constantly disrupting a tribunal (Rule 3.4(d))
- Shouldn't the other lawyers who see this stuff happen report their colleagues? Rule 8.3(a)

### #Hashtag ethics

Late night talk shows find funny hashtags and build shows around them. Stuart Teicher, Esq, the CLE Performer did the same thing for an ethics program! Join Stuart as he takes 10 funny hashtags from social media and teaches about lying and deception — two critical ethics issues needed to navigate the crazy times we live it! Rules 4.1 and 3.3 will be discussed and he'll even touch on conflicts too!

### A Hollywood-worthy History of the Ethics Code:

The story of our modern ethics rules is so fascinating that it's almost Hollywood-worthy. There was a huge role played by a White Supremacist...a major impact by not one, not two, but three major Presidents of the United States...and a tremendous paradigm shift that's being felt to this day. Join internationally renowned educator Stuart Teicher, Esq., as he provides an interesting and valuable revelations about the history of the legal profession (and the ethics code), a discussion about the duties of lawyers to the system of justice, and an explanation of the meaning of professionalism in contemporary legal practice (Rules 1.1, 1.3, 6.1, and more).

### No More Eyes Wide Shut. Ethical Times Have Changed.

Lawyers used to be able to get away with playing dumb. We could conveniently ignore the misdeeds of our clients...we could keep our eyes shut. Not any more. In this intriguing program, Stuart Teicher, Esq. (the CLE Performer) tells a tale involving drug dealers, money launderers, the ABA's recent Opinion 491, the EU's 6th Anti-Money Laundering Directive, and international corruption. In the end you'll learn about the newly created responsibility for lawyers to ask questions about our client's bad deeds.

### 10 Coping Skills that Come from the Ethics Rules

Getting through the rigors of the practice of law can be a challenge. Luckily, lawyers have the ethics rules to guide the way! Join the CLE Performer, Stuart Teicher, Esq., as he shows how certain rules of ethics reveal important coping mechanisms for all lawyers. Topics include:

- Connecting with supporting people (Rule 1.1)
- The benefit of "planning in reverse" (Rule 1.3)
- The benefit of keeping an eye on one another (Rule 5.1)

### How Watergate and Enron Changed Ethics Forever.

There is no better way to understand modern legal ethics than by learning the story of the Watergate lawyers and what happened with Enron. That's because the sophisticated, accomplished lawyers who were embroiled in both scandals violated nearly every fundamental ethics standard imaginable. And both fiascos changed attorney ethics forever. Join the CLE Performer, Stuart Teicher, Esq., as he tells the story of the important moments in American history and teaches about ethics and professionalism. Topics include:

- The independence of the lawyer in the context of the lawyer-client relationship (Rule 2.1)
- The conflict between duty to client and duty to the public good
- Confidentiality (Rule 1.6)
- The lawyer's responsibility to perceive and protect the image of the profession

### The Ethics Fight of the Century: Hoffman vs. Sharswood

You wouldn't think that a disagreement between two ethics scholars would be exciting, right? Well, be prepared to be surprised. Join the CLE Performer, Stuart Teicher, Esq., as he talks about how the paradigm of zealous advocacy was a main sticking point many years ago...and how that continued to reverberate through the practice today. Topics discussed:

- Rule 8.4, and the role of deception in advocacy
- Rule 1.3 and the reference to zeal in advocacy
- Various Preamble sections of the ethics code

### #FreeBritney #Interesting — The Ethics of the Britney Spears Debacle

The Britney Spears saga contained a bunch of ethics issues. Was the matter "Toxic" for lawyers? Maybe not, but it certainly was a "Circus". Hearing this program once might not be enough - you may ask the CLE Performer, Stuart Teicher to "hit you one more time." Come explore the attorney ethics issues in the Britney Spears conservatorship matter. Topics include:

- Confidentiality,
- Trial Publicity. Rule 3.6
- Clients with Diminished Capacity, Rule 1.14

### From Bonnie and Clyde, to Bernie Madoff — What the biggest thieves in history teach about attorney ethics

The ethics rules are all about deterring bad conduct...and who has conducted themselves badder than the worst thieves in history? Join the CLE Performer, Stuart Teicher, Esq., as he unearths the stories of some of the worst crooks in history and reveals the ethics lessons that lie beneath. Topics include:

- Assisting in wrongdoing and Rule 8.4(a)
- Rule 1.6(b), financial crimes and frauds
- What criminal gangs teach about Rule 1.10 (imputing conflicts)

### White House Counsel and Attorney Ethics: A Quandary

When Stuart Teicher, Esq. (the CLE Performer) started to research the role of White House Counsel, he was surprised to learn how much of that role of White House Counsel falls into ethical grey areas. Stuart uses the intriguing relationship between the White House Counsel, the President, and Congress to evaluate ethics rules that are ultimately important to all lawyers.

Topic include:

- The unique question of "who is the client" in this context — Rule 1.7
- How pushing for a pardon could cause a violation of Rule 8.4(c)
- Is listening to the President mandatory? Rules 1.4, 1.2(a) and 1.2(d)
- How standing up to the president is difficult, but required — Rule 2.1
- When lawyer/client privilege and executive privilege create a grey area for lawyers, ethically

## Professionalism Courses (each 1 hour)

### Can a Lawyer...? What a google search teaches about professionalism

Stuart Teicher, Esq. (the CLE Performer) started a google search recently with the words "Can lawyers..." He was shocked at the phrases that were auto populated by the search engine. And he got to wondering...can lawyers actually do all of those things? Join him as he explores the propriety of lawyer behavior as recommended by the recommendations of the search engine. This is a program about professionalism. Topics include:

- Can a lawyer criticize a judge?
- Can a lawyer drop a client?
- Can a lawyer turn in a colleague (and should they?)

### Should we Outlaw Twitter for lawyers? A Professionalism Debate

Just because we could say things on social media and we can be reality TV contestants, doesn't mean we should do those things. In fact, there are a variety of professional conduct concerns for lawyers when they use these platforms...so maybe we shouldn't use them altogether? Join the CLE Performer, Stuart Teicher, Esq., as he argues the professionalism justification for banning lawyers from these things. Topics covered include:

- How lawyers' behavior "on our own time" still matters.
- Just because a lawyer "could" say something on Twitter, doesn't mean we "should" say it — how professionalism is different from ethics.
- The mental health ramifications of lawyers' use of Twitter.
- How Twitter destroys lawyer competence

### What's The Dirtiest Word in Ethics? (This can also be done as an ethics program - listed again above for that purpose)

There's one word that has been used to cover up all manner of sins in the practice of law-- that word is, "zealous". But there's a move these days to eliminate that word from the practice all together. Join "the CLE Performer" Stuart Teicher Esq., as he explains why pushing the boundaries is not the ethical way to practice law. Stuart explains how our brothers and sisters in the practice from years past got us into the current situation and how the new trends in professionalism could show us the way out (Rules 3.1, 3.2, 3.4, 4.4, and more)

### Take my Law School Ethics Exam

Do you still have it? Do you think you'll be able to see the issues in a typical law school exam? Stuart Teicher (the CLE Performer) teaches professional responsibility in law school and he's going to walk you through one of the exams he recently gave his students (don't worry — you don't really have to take the exam if you don't want to...you can just listen to him talk about it).

Topics include:

- There interplay between the current and former client rules (Rules 1.7 and 1.9)
- Understanding the rule on confidentiality (Rule 1.6)
- The reasonableness of fees and Rule 1.5

## **Time Management Programs**

### LIFETIME Management: An Ethical Answer to Time Management

Stuart Teicher, Esq. (the CLE Performer) is convinced that the majority of lawyers' time management concerns can be traced to a deeper set of problems. The culprit is often the impact of the "Evil Trilogy" of bad lawyering habits: Procrastination, Distraction and Neglect. In this intriguing course, Stuart Teicher teaches lawyers how to use the lessons set forth in rules of professional conduct to conquer these problems and leaves us with an ethics-based solution to our time management woes. Rules include:

- Competence, Rule 1.1
- Diligence, Rule 1.3
- Communication, Rule 1.4
- Supervision, Rules 5.1 and 5.3

## **Mental Health Programs**

### What my Facebook Posts Teach about Lawyer Mental Health

Stuart Teicher, Esq., posts some funny stuff while on the road as a CLE teacher. Like most of society he documents his life on FaceBook. But the difference is that most of his posts actually teach some important mental health lessons for lawyers. Join him as he discusses how lawyers are affected by anxiety, compassion fatigue, over-functioning, and more.

### What Lindsay Lohan Teaches Lawyers About Substance Abuse

Ms. Lohan has had a checkered career...which has been plagued by substance abuse. Believe it or not, but there are a lot of lessons that lawyers could learn from her story. Come listen to the tales of a Hollywood "legend" and learn lessons that could help lawyers avoid the perils of substance abuse.

## **Diversity/Elimination of Bias Programs**

### What Jazz and the Blues Teach about Bias and Inclusion in the Law

Jazz and The Blues are about a lot of things, including struggle, culture, bias, inclusion, change, and resilience. Each of those concepts are critical to understanding and combatting bias in the practice of law. Join the CLE Performer, Stuart Teicher, Esq., as he connects the world of jazz and the blues to diversity and inclusion in the legal world.

### What “A Letter from a Birmingham Jail” Teaches about Inclusion in the Law

In 1963, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was arrested in Birmingham, Alabama for violating the States’ law against mass public demonstrations. From his jail cell, Dr. King penned an important response to clergy-people who criticized the protest that got him arrested. The words from that letter have proved to be among Dr. King’s most important writings and, interestingly, they are relevant to lawyers as well. In this intriguing program, “the CLE Performer,” Stuart Teicher, Esq., will explain...

- How the text of Dr. King’s letter helps lawyers to recognize discriminatory conduct in the practice of law.
- How the story behind the letter can help lawyers improve inclusion of marginalized communities in the practice of law
- Mr. Teicher will also explain the relevance of Maine Rule 8.4(g) and,
- The role that individual lawyers play in the reaching the larger goal of avoiding discrimination in the practice

### Bias has Been Eliminated...Hypothetically Speaking

The occurrence of stereotypically outlandish bias has decreased in recent years (thankfully). But that doesn't mean that we've eliminated bias from the profession. In fact, it unfortunately continues to exist in more subtle ways. Join the “CLE Performer,” Stuart Teicher, Esq., as he explores implicit bias, uses several hypothetical examples to reveal how bias manifests itself in the practice...and gives a few ideas about what lawyers can do to eliminate it from the profession.

### What the Song of the Century Teaches about Inclusion in the Law

A white man and a Black woman joined forces to create the most powerful protest song in the history of modern music. “Strange Fruit” was deemed the song of the 20th Century and the story of its creation teaches lawyers valuable lessons about inclusion in the law. Join the CLE Performer, Stuart Teicher, Esq., as he explains how collaboration and friendship form the bedrock needed to create a foundation of inclusion in the practice of law.

### What the Mississippi Delta Teaches About Bias in the Legal Profession

The area between the Mississippi and Yazoo Rivers is unlike any other place on earth. The history of the place is unique and so are the politics. In this one-of-a-kind program, Stuart Teicher, Esq. (the CLE Performer) traveled to the Delta and recorded a program — he uses the backdrop of this unique place to illustrate...

- The difference between diversity an inclusion in the practice of law
- How the culture of the practice is holding back advancement of inclusion
- The importance of structural training in creating enduring change in eliminating bias in the law



## Legal Writing

### PERSUASIVE WRITING

Three Hour Program on Persuasive Writing:

#### **Fluff is for Pillows, Not Legal Writing** *(this could also be done in shorter increments)*

Lawyers have been passing bad writing habits down from generation to generation. In this 3 hour legal writing program, Stuart Teicher (the “CLE Performer”) teaches a new, more concise way of persuasive legal writing.

- Hour 1: Stuart Teicher, Esq., explains that the new paradigm for legal writing is what he calls the “Surgical Strike.” He explains how lawyers can make their writings clear, concise, and direct by using Plain English.

- Hour 2: The anatomy of a persuasive writing: In this hour Teicher explains the essential elements that every legal writing must contain. He sets forth the proper overall structure for a document, as well as a stop-by-step process for an effective persuasive paragraph.

- Hour 3: Get down with the details: In this hour Stuart teaches about the technicalities of sentence structure, and his "Shortwriting" method for reducing long sentences. If time permits you'll get the skinny on "the only punctuation you'll ever need to know."

One hour programs for all types of writers:

#### **Semicolons are Stupid, and other Legal Writing Myths:**

Stuart explains how small elements like punctuation and grammar are critical for lawyers to take their writing to the next level...and he does so in a (surprisingly?) engaging way.

#### **Killer Correspondence!**

One of the sharpest tools in the lawyer's arsenal is a surprisingly common item. The letter. Whether it's a demand letter, a note sent during negotiations, or a client communication, your success could be dependent on a piece of correspondence. In this hour, Stuart explains how to write them with the proper persuasive edge.

#### **Learn by doing. An hour of legal writing exercises.**

Bring your computer (or your pencil if you're old school...no judgment), and get ready to write. Stuart Teicher (the CLE Performer) has a truckload of exercises that we will do individually then discuss as a group, so we can learn about how to become better legal writers. Things you'll learn are:

- The best way to integrate sources into our legal writing.
- How to write in plain English
- How to rework complicated passages
- And more!

## Contract Drafting/Transactional Writing

*This can be done as a three-hour program, or it can be broken down into one-hour segments*

### **Breaking out of the form: Smart direction for better drafting** *(a three hour program)*

It's time to write contracts differently! Stuart Teicher, Esq (the "CLE Performer") uses his unique style to explain why lawyers need to break free from the restrictions of the past — those dreaded forms. Whether it's rewriting the form or drafting from scratch, Stuart teaches us how to make our contract drafting better by focusing on the essence of transactional drafting, the details of proper contract structure, and the key details in our writing. This 3-hour program covers the following:

- Making the deal — a reminder about how the client thinks, what they care about, and how to translate that into an agreement
- Why contract structure is critical
  - The importance of content grouping
  - When formatting matters
  - Eliminating obstacles...like block paragraphs
- Drafting contingencies that work, and the role of definitions
- Drafting clearly and without ambiguity
  - Deconstructing complex clauses
  - Incorporating plain language without reducing enforceability
  - Reworking boilerplate provisions
- Getting down to the details:
  - When to use shall, must, and will
  - Grammar rules you should ignore in contract drafting
  - A few words on proper punctuation
  - Unique contract styles and when they might be valuable
- Some practical tips for a smoother transaction

## Specialty Writing Programs

### Legal Writing for Non-native English Speakers

*(1 hour program)*

Legal writing could be daunting if English isn't your first language. But it's possible to be an effective legal writer in English if one applies the right principles. In this important program, Stuart Teicher teaches the things to do (like Plain English) and the things to avoid (like run on sentences). Lawyers who attend will leave a more confident writer in English.