

## ***Legal Ethics Lessons from the Penn State Scandal***

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### Discussion Questions

1. You learn of facts that suggest your county manager may have sexually harassed a former employee. You wish to investigate the matter further. What steps do you take to initiate such an investigation?
2. You believe that your county's board needs to be updated immediately on a potentially serious legal matter. Your county manager disagrees and says she can brief the board on this matter at the next regularly scheduled board meeting. How do you respond?
3. Your county manager asks you to leave a (closed) board meeting while she updates the board on a potentially serious employment matter. How do you respond?
4. A board member calls you to ask questions about a potentially serious legal matter. Your county manager has previously asked that all board communication with the attorney be directed through her. How do you respond to the board member?
5. Your county's human resources director is sued by a former employee on allegations of sexual harassment. Your county manager tells you she wants to issue a formal statement of support for the HR director. How do you respond?
6. The chair of your board calls you and asks you to investigate potential financial misconduct in the tax office. You realize that this investigation could be time consuming and expensive. How do you respond?
7. Your county manager receives a subpoena to testify before a grand jury in connection with a criminal investigation concerning one of your client's former employees. What steps do you take next?
8. Your client receives a subpoena for documents related to the criminal matter above. Senior management immediately informs you that they have no documents responsive to the request. How do you respond?
9. You have been recently retained/hired by a county to replace an attorney who represented the client for twenty years. What questions do you ask of the former attorney?