

Professional Ethics in Human Factors Forensics Consulting

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This presentation examines aspects of forensics professional ethics of human factors consultants. Four areas will be discussed. The first concerns members' knowledge of FPG's Code of Ethics (published on pp. 359-360 of *HFES 2004-2005*

Directory and Yearbook). The second is advertising. Positive and negative aspects of the use of advertising by the testifying expert will be discussed. The third concerns decisions relevant to taking vs. turning down a case. Considered will be expertise in the specific vs. general area and preparation time constraints. With stricter Daubert criteria, it is important that the retained expert has the "right" background, or else the testimony's scope may be limited by the judge. Being allowed to testify is more likely if expertise is demonstrable. The fourth and last area concerns the pro bono work having the side benefit of gaining experience.

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