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## BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT ISSUES OPINIONS ON LAWYER ADVERTISING AND FORMER MAGISTRATE REPRESENTATION

The Board of Professional Conduct recently issued two opinions updating and withdrawing former opinions. [Opinion 2017-3 Solicitation of Professional Employment via Email](#), advises that a lawyer may use email to solicit professional employment, subject to the restrictions in the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct. The opinion states that a lawyer may allow a lawyer referral service or lawyer advertising service to transmit a solicitation email on the lawyer's behalf, but the lawyer remains responsible for the content of the email and must ensure that the communication complies with the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct.

[Opinion 2017-4 Legal Representation of a Client by a Former Magistrate](#), notes that under Ohio Ethics Law, a former magistrate is prohibited for 12 months after leaving the bench from representing a client in a matter in which he or she personally participated in as a government employee. The opinion, therefore, advises that under the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct, a former magistrate may not represent a client in a matter over which the former magistrate presided while on the bench, unless all parties give informed consent, confirmed in writing.

If you have any questions at all about these Opinions or any other issues, please do not hesitate to contact OBLIC for assistance.

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