

**Florida A&M University**  
**College of Law**  
**Professional Responsibility Course – Fall 2014**  
**Professor Maritza Reyes**  
**Course No. 5750**  
**Class No. 3682**  
**Sec. No. 301**

**General Assumptions:** 2L students know (1) how to brief cases; (2) how to be prepared for class on the first day of class; and (3) how to follow instructions. I will provide additional preparation guidelines for the course during the first day of class.

**Required Book and ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct (the Rules):** Information about the required book should have been made available through the bookstore. In addition, I have posted the information about the book and the Rules on TWEN.

**Reading Assignment – Week 1**

Chapter 3 – Professional Independence and Professional Codes

A. The Historical Backdrop (**Pages 103-110**)

Jerold S. Auerbach, *Unequal Justice: Lawyers and Social Change in Modern America*

Problem 1

Notes

Questions

B. Self-Regulation: Justifications and Critiques (**Pages 110-114**)

Introduction

ABA “Report of the Committee on [the] Code of Professional Ethics”

Notes

Notes (**Pages 122-123**)

Deborah L. Rhode, *In the Interests of Justice*

• Available through Westlaw or Lexis: Benjamin H. Barton, *The ABA, The Rules, and Professionalism: The Mechanics of Self-Defeat and a Call for a Return to the Ethical, Moral, and Practical Approach of the Canons*, 83 N.C. L. REV. 411 (2005).

Chapter 14 – Admission to the Bar

A. Introduction (**Page 893-894**)

Notes: Historical Perspectives

J. Willard Hurst, *The Growth of American Law*

B. Competence (**Pages 894-902**)

Introduction: Bar Exams

Questions

C. Character and Fitness (**Pages 902-906**)

George Sharswood, *An Essay on Professional Ethics*

*Schware v. Board of Bar Examiners of the State of New Mexico*

Notes

**D. Notes (Pages 907-912)**

Problem 1

- a. Criminal Conduct and Rehabilitation: *Application of King, Application of T.J.S., In the Mater of Hamm*
- b. Academic Misconduct
- c. First Amendment Concerns: *In re Converse, Hale v. Committee of Character and Fitness of the Illinois Bar*
- d. Dishonesty
- e. Financial Responsibility: *In re Application of Griffin*

**Notes and Questions (Pages 912-919)**

Problems 2 & 3

Notes and Questions

Additional Reading re Florida Bar admissions (accessible through link on TWEN → Florida Board of Bar Examiners Main Page):

1. Admission Requirements
2. Rules 3-10, 3-11, 3-12, 3-13

Additional Reading (available on TWEN → Additional Florida Materials folder):

- Fla. Stat. § 454.021 in Chapter 454, Florida Statutes (2013).
- 2014 Amendment to Fla. Stat. § 454.021.

*NOTE: Besides reading the text of the Rule(s) that apply to the particular reading assignment in the book, students shall also read the specific Rule's comments.*