

# **GEORGIA FIRE SPRINKLER ASSOCIATION CODE OF ETHICS**

## **PREAMBLE**

The members of the Georgia Fire Sprinkler Association recognize that their work has a direct impact on the quality of life. Accordingly, the services provided by GFSA members require honesty, impartiality, fairness and integrity, and must be dedicated to the preservation of life and property and the further enhancement of the public safety. In practice of their profession, members of Georgia Fire Sprinkler Association must maintain and constantly improve their competence and perform under a standard of professional behavior which requires adherence to the highest principles of ethical conduct with balanced regard for the interests of the public, clients, employees, colleagues and the greater fire protection community they serve. Members of the Georgia Fire Sprinkler Association are expected to act in accordance with the provisions of this code of ethics and all applicable laws, and actively encourage others to do the same.

## **THE CODE**

### **Fundamental Principles**

Georgia Fire Sprinkler Association members uphold and advance the honor and integrity of their profession by:

- Abiding by the current State of Georgia laws governing their profession.
- Using their knowledge and skill for enhancement of human welfare.
- Being honest and impartial, and serving with faithfulness the public, their employees, and clients.
- Striving to increase the competence and prestige of their profession.

### **STATE OF GEORGIA LAW**

- Contractor members of the GFSA shall be licensed and operate in accordance with current State law. If members become knowledgeable of persons operating or planning to operate in an unlawful manner as a contractor, the GFSA member shall notify the appropriate authority at the State Fire Marshal's Office.

### **KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL**

- Members of the Georgia Fire Sprinkler Association shall be dedicated to the safety, health, and welfare of the public in the performance of their profession. If GFSA members become knowledgeable of unsafe conditions that threaten the present or future safety, health or welfare of the public, then they shall advise their employees or clients. Should knowledge of such conditions not be properly acted upon, the GFSA members should notify the appropriate authority having jurisdiction.
- Members of the Georgia Fire Sprinkler Association shall be encouraged to contribute their services for the advancement of the safety, health and welfare of the community and to support those causes as an enhancement to the safety of life and the preservation of property.

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**HONESTY AND IMPARTIALITY**

- **Members of the Georgia Fire Sprinkler Association shall perform their professional services only in the areas of their competence, and after full disclosure of their pertinent qualifications.**
- **GFSA members shall be honest and truthful in presenting data and estimates, professional opinions and conclusions, and in their public statements dealing with professional matters, and shall not engage in improper solicitation of professional employment contracts.**
- **GFSA members shall act in a professional manner at all times for each employer or client as faithful agents or trustees and shall not disclose matters of confidentiality concerning the business affairs or technical processes of any present or former client or employer without consent.**
- **GFSA members decisions shall be made and actions taken without bias because of race, religion, sex, age, national origin or physical handicaps.**
- **GFSA members shall make prior disclosure to all interested parties of all known or potential conflicts of interest other circumstances which could influence their judgment or the quality of their work.**

**COMPETENCE AND PRESTIGE**

- **GFSA members shall perform their work/services and associate with others only in such manner as to uphold and enhance the honor and integrity of their profession.**
- **GFSA members shall continue their professional enhancement throughout their careers and shall provide opportunities for the professional development of those individuals under their supervision.**
- **GFSA members shall accept the responsibility for their actions, accept and offer honest criticism of their work, properly credit the contribution of others, and shall not accept credit for the work of others.**
- **GFSA members shall strive to advance the knowledge and skills of their profession, and to make these advancements available to colleagues, clients and the public.**