

Committee Opinion
April 19, 1979

LEGAL ETHICS OPINION 321

PURCHASE OF LAW PRACTICE –
LETTERHEAD.

An attorney “A” proposes to purchase the law practice of another attorney “B.” Under these circumstances, “B” should contact all present clients and advise them of the termination of “B’s” practice. The clients should be afforded the opportunity to retain “A” or other counsel. It is improper for “A” to purchase client’s files or pending litigation as “accounts receivable” or to retain “B’s” name on the office letterhead. [See II: DR:2-103(D), DR:2-108(D), DR:4-101(B)(1) and (3), DR:4-101(C)(1), and EC:4-6.]

Committee Opinion
April 19, 1979

Legal Ethics Committee Notes. – Rule 1.17 permits the purchase or sale of a law firm’s practice, including good will, under certain circumstances.