

Committee Opinion
May 20, 1981

LEGAL ETHICS OPINION 413

ATTORNEYS SHARING OFFICE SPACE.

Attorney X represented two children against their mother for misapplication of estate funds. Attorney Y represented the mother. While the matter was pending, Attorney X advised that he intended to share office space with Attorney Y and employ the same secretary. Under these circumstances, the Legal Ethics Committee is of the view that both clients would perceive that one law firm represented their opposing interests. Furthermore, it would be extremely difficult to preserve the confidences and secrets of each client. While under the circumstances, the Legal Ethics Committee could not conclude categorically that the conduct was ethically improper, the Committee did conclude, however, that the better course of conduct would be for both attorneys to withdraw from the matter. [See II: DR:4-101 and EC:9-2.]

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