

Committee Opinion
September 13, 1983

LEGAL ETHICS OPINION 524

SUSPENSION OF LICENSE TO
PRACTICE LAW/MAINTAINING LAW
OFFICE DURING PERIOD OF
SUSPENSION.

It is ethically permissible for a licensed attorney to operate the law office of a suspended attorney during the period of suspension if the licensed attorney:

1. Has no association with the suspended attorney other than to pay law office expenses,
2. Retains all cases generated by the licensed attorney while operating the law office and does not give any client the impression that the licensed attorney is an associate of the suspended attorney, and
3. The suspended attorney is not in the law office during business hours.

The licensed attorney also must obtain consent of any clients of the suspended attorney before gaining access to their files and must ensure that the client is not misled as to the relationship of the licensed attorney with the suspended attorney. [DR:2-101(A) and DR:4-101]

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Editor's Note. – To the extent that L E Op. No. 824 is inconsistent with L E Op. No. 524, L E Op. No. 824 controls. See also L E Op. No. 694.