

Committee Opinion  
June 24, 1987

LEGAL ETHICS OPINION 929

ATTORNEY/CLIENT – CONFIDENCES  
AND SECRETS.

An attorney's client has failed to appear for trial on eight felony counts, a *capias* has been issued, and the attorney has subsequently received an unsolicited letter with no return address but bearing the post mark of a major city outside Virginia. Client has stated his intention to remain a fugitive and leave the United States and stated that the attorney can contact the client through a member of the client's family. It is improper, given the above, for the attorney to reveal the intention of his client to leave the country. The committee opines that a "continuing wrong," as in this situation, does not fall into the category of DR:4-101(D)(1) and, therefore, is a privileged communication. It is proper, and the committee does advise, that the attorney advise his client of the additional legal consequences of his continued actions and to urge the client not to continue the wrong. [ DR:4-101(B), DR:4-101(D)(1); ABA Formal Opinion 155, *Commonwealth v. Maguigan*, 511 At. 2d 1327, 1333 (Pa) (Pa. 1986)]

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