

OCDLA LISTSERV GUIDELINES

The following are largely self-explanatory. Some are mandatory (for which there may be consequences), some are guidelines, and some are reminders of ways to be courteous to others and to make the listserv a better and more useful place for everyone.

1. **YOU SHOULD NEVER POST OR DISCLOSE ANYTHING THAT YOU WOULD NOT WANT THE WORLD TO SEE. YOU SHOULD NEVER POST ANYTHING THAT IF DISCLOSED OFF THE LIST WOULD BE HARMFUL TO A CLIENT.**

Matters posted on the OCDLA Listserv are confidential and may not be repeated or republished without the express permission of all persons posting the information. News articles posted to the listserv may be reposted (copyright issues are the members responsibility) elsewhere by cutting and pasting the link or story. Under no circumstances should a listserv post of any kind be "forwarded" to any other person or group. If you cannot or choose not to keep what is posted confidential, unsubscribe. Failure to comply with this policy may result in immediate suspension of your listserv privileges. Even though we strive for confidentiality, we cannot and do not warrant confidentiality.

2. **SUBJECT LINE:** All posts should contain information in the subject line that identifies it so that those to whom it has no interest can simply delete it. For example, if asking about the Texas consequences of an action in Florida, it might state "Texas Consequences to Florida Conviction?" If the subject changes, please change the subject line.
3. **HIJACK:** Please do not change a subject in an existing thread. Please start a new email so the existing conversation can continue and your topic will be available for searches in the future.
4. **SIGNATURE BLOCK:** All posts shall have a signature block with your name, contact

information, and email address. Affiliate members shall identify themselves as such in any post. You should not assume that everyone knows who you are just because you are on the list.

5. **NON-COMMERCIAL:** The listserv is non-commercial. An exception is made for seminars and educational opportunities and one-time professional announcements. For any non-OCDLA sponsored event you must have prior approval of the OCDLA leadership before posting. This does not prevent anyone from asking about books, seminars, or other classes on the listserv, but if you have a question about a specific book, seminar or class, in response to an announcement of that book, seminar, or other class, you should send it only to the person who posted about it. This does not prevent requests about what books, seminars, or classes are valuable or available. Advertising for any other commercial purpose is prohibited. This includes marketing of practices and web sites or services. Failure to comply with this policy may result in immediate suspension of listserv privileges.
6. **EXPERTS:** We allow a limited and tightly controlled number of non-member experts and related professionals to participate on the listserv. They are allowed to participate because they contribute to the discussion and help to educate all of us about matters within their expertise. OCDLA does not approve or sponsor any of these experts. We recognize that their presence on the listserv allows them to indirectly market their services, but direct marketing by them on the listserv is prohibited. Whether any such expert should be hired or is appropriate for any kind of case is a decision that requires the exercise of independent legal judgment in each case. As with information obtained from any other listserv member, it is your sole responsibility to exercise your independent legal skills and judgment in using any information you receive from the listserv: all information should independently be

confirmed.

7. SPAM: Jokes, sports, politics, betting pools, and similar subjects, stories and attachments that are not law-related are prohibited. You may be very proud of or excited about your sports team; express it privately. 400+ other people do not care and it diminishes the overall usefulness of the listserv. Use some common sense and be courteous to others' time.
8. FLAMING: Personal attacks on members of the listserv are prohibited, and may result in immediate suspension of your listserv privileges. They have no place on the list and will not be tolerated. Be civil. We can disagree without being disagreeable. Sexually graphic or explicit material (not directly related to criminal defense) is prohibited: if you would not send it to your teenage daughter, it is probably not appropriate for the listserv.
9. Defamatory, abusive, profane, threatening, offensive, unethical, or illegal materials are prohibited. Such posts may result in immediate suspension of your listserv privileges.
10. OCDLA is fully equal opportunity compliant. Posts denigrating anyone's race, national origin, sex, sexual preference, or religion are prohibited and may result in immediate suspension of your listserv privileges.
11. OFF TOPIC: Posts that are off topic (OT) or SPAM should avoided. Members should use common sense and judgment in posting anything that is off topic or spam. If posted, such material should expressly include in the subject line "OT" or "SPAM" so that those others may identify it as such. We recognize that some things that are technically off topic or spam may still have some value or usefulness. Abusive or excessive posting of off-topic or spam material is prohibited and may result in immediate suspension of your listserv privileges.
12. As a matter of courtesy, please try to read other peoples' responses to posts before you respond. You will often find that a questions has already been answered. Similarly, you may

find that a question you need answered has already been answered.

13. The OCDLA reserves the right to take any action it deems to be in the best interest of the Association. No one -- member or otherwise -- has an absolute right to be included or participate in the listserv. No set of rules can fully anticipate all possible situations and some situations may not be in the best interest of the Association even if they do not expressly violate any of the listserv rules. Some situation may call for exceptions, but those should be sought beforehand, not afterwards. If you have any questions, contact the OCDLA's administrator, Brandon Pointer, at bdp@for-the-defense.com. If you have a question, comment or observation about these rules, it should be done off-list to the administrator or directly to the Board of Directors at a Directors' meeting.