



## **Guidance for Members Seeking IEEE Support Related to Member's Professional Reputation/Standing and Ethics**

*IEEE Policy 7.11 – Ethical Support outlines the process for members seeking support when they believe their professional reputation or standing has been affected as a result of their adherence to the IEEE Code of Ethics. This document serves as a recommendation of preliminary steps members should take when considering seeking support from the IEEE Ethics and Member Conduct Committee. These guidelines do not replace or supersede the policies and procedures related to the IEEE Ethics Reporting Line.*

**ISSUE: What steps can a member take to gain IEEE support related to member's professional reputation/standing and ethics?**

**ANSWER:** The member should pursue the following steps:

**Step 1** (Member): Prepare a list of the specific issues that have arisen that have placed your professional reputation/standing in jeopardy.

**Step 2** (Member): Prepare a list of the names of individuals and/or entities that have placed your professional reputation/standing in jeopardy and note which issues apply to each individual or entity.

**Step 3** (Member): Review the IEEE Code of Ethics (IEEE Policy Section 7.8) and the IEEE Code of Conduct and list the specific ethical conduct issues that, in your opinion, were violated and how they were violated.

**Step 4** (Member): Meet with your legal counsel to review the above information and determine the best strategy that should be pursued to address the damage to your professional reputation/standing.

**Step 5** (Member): If you and your legal counsel conclude that IEEE might have a role in assisting you in gaining resolution to the damage to your professional reputation/standing, submit a request for support by traceable mail to the current EMCC Chair at [ethics@ieee.org](mailto:ethics@ieee.org).



**Step 6** (IEEE EMCC Chair): The EMCC Chair, in consultation with an IEEE legal counsel, will review the request, determine the next steps that should be taken, and provide a response to the member.

The IEEE Policy is available and may be found at <https://www.ieee.org/content/dam/ieee-org/ieee/web/org/about/corporate/ieee-policies.pdf>