

**21 NCAC 68 .0507 CLIENT WELFARE**

- (a) The substance use disorder professional shall protect the safety and welfare of the client.
- (b) The substance use disorder professional shall inform clients of the nature and direction of loyalties and responsibilities and keep all parties participating in the client's care informed of these commitments.
- (c) The substance use disorder professional, in the presence of professional conflict, shall be concerned primarily with the welfare of the client.
- (d) The substance use disorder professional shall withdraw services only after giving consideration to all factors in the situation and taking care to minimize adverse actual or possible effects.
- (e) The substance use disorder professional shall, after minimizing any adverse impact, end a counseling or consulting relationship when the professional knows or should know that the client is not benefiting from services.
- (f) The substance use disorder professional who anticipates the cessation or interruption of service to a client shall notify the client and seek the cessation, transfer, referral, or continuation of service in relation to the client's needs and preferences.
- (g) The substance use disorder professional shall not use a client in a demonstration that would violate the confidentiality of the client.
- (h) The substance use disorder professional shall deliver services in a setting that respects client confidentiality.
- (i) The substance use disorder professional shall collaborate with other health care professionals providing treatment or support services to a client.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 90-113.30; 90-113.33; 90-113.39; 90-113.40; 90-113.43; 90-113.44;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. October 23, 1995 for a period of 180 days or until the permanent rule  
becomes effective, whichever is sooner;  
Eff. February 1, 1996;  
Amended Eff. January 1, 2010; April 1, 2001; August 1, 2000;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2020.*