

KENTUCKY BAR ASSOCIATION
Ethics Opinion KBA E-224
Issued: January 1980

This opinion was decided under the Code of Professional Responsibility, which was in effect from 1971 to 1990. Lawyers should consult the current version of the Rules of Professional Conduct and Comments, SCR 3.130 (available at <http://www.kybar.org>), especially Rules 7.01-7.50 and the Attorneys' Advertising Commission Regulations, before relying on this opinion.

Question: May an attorney advertise the fact that the lawyer is in the general practice of law?

Answer: Qualified Yes.

References: SCR 3.135. Now Rules 7.01-7.60.

OPINION

The Supreme Court Rule 3.135 provides that a lawyer may advertise under certain circumstances and with certain caveats.

More specifically SCR 3.135 provides that the advertisement can include “(5) a statement of the type of services rendered including, if desired, any limitation or concentration of practice.”

It is the feeling of the Committee the major reason for the Supreme Court Rule on advertising is to acquaint the public with the availability of legal services. More particularly, SCR 3.135(5) above allows the lay individual to review the lawyer's expertise and specialties in certain areas. The Committee's feeling is that the words “general practice” acquaint the public as to the type of services that lawyer would perform.

Note to Reader

This ethics opinion has been formally adopted by the Board of Governors of the Kentucky Bar Association under the provisions of Kentucky Supreme Court Rule 3.530 (or its predecessor rule). The Rule provides that formal opinions are advisory only.