

**THE WEST VIRGINIA STATE BAR
COMMITTEE ON LEGAL ETHICS**

**UNPUBLISHED LEGAL ETHICS INQUIRY 78-16
September 26, 1978
Rescinded**

Reference is made to your letter of September 16, 1978, in which you inquire as to whether the Committee on Legal Ethics has changed its position concerning a lawyer concurrently engaging in the practice of law and conducting a real estate business. Please be advised that the Committee has not, in any way, modified its position as set forth in the Summer 1976 Opinion to which you refer.

Additionally, concerning the use of credit cards in payment for private legal services, this Committee's opinion was reported in The West Virginia State Bar Journal, Volume 2, Number 4, Winter 1976. In that opinion the Committee held that:

There shall be no display of an emblem or window decal in the lawyer's office relating to the credit card. Such display is undignified and is a form of improper solicitation.

However, a lawyer may advise clients on an individual basis, as the need arises, of his acceptance of credit cards in payment for legal services. In so doing, scrupulous care should be taken to avoid solicitation or the appearance of such.