Committee Opinion August 21, 1987

LEGAL ETHICS OPINION 958

ATTORNEY – REPRESENTATION OF LAW PARTNER.

It is not improper for an attorney to represent his partner in a private contractual dispute between the attorney and third persons if neither the issues of the suit nor the real property involved pertain to anything connected with his law partnership or legal work handled by his firm. [DR:5-101(B), DR:5-102(A); See also Bottaro v. Hatton Associates, 680 F.2d 895 (Cal. 2 1982)]

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Legal Ethics Committee Notes. – See Rule 3.7 (c) stating that there is no longer disqualification of the entire firm when a lawyer must testify, unless representation would create a conflict under Rule 1.7 or Rule 1.9. Under Rule 3.7(c), this disqualification is not imputed to the lawyer's firm unless there is an actual conflict of interest.