American Bar Association  
CPR Policy Implementation Committee  

Variations of the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct  

**RULE 1.2: SCOPE OF REPRESENTATION AND ALLOCATION OF AUTHORITY BETWEEN CLIENT AND LAWYER**  

(a) Subject to paragraphs (c) and (d), a lawyer shall abide by a client's decisions concerning the objectives of representation and, as required by Rule 1.4, shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer may take such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation. A lawyer shall abide by a client's decision whether to settle a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client's decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial and whether the client will testify.  

(b) A lawyer's representation of a client, including representation by appointment, does not constitute an endorsement of the client's political, economic, social or moral views or activities.  

(c) A lawyer may limit the scope of the representation if the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances and the client gives informed consent.  

(d) A lawyer shall not counsel a client to engage, or assist a client, in conduct that the lawyer knows is criminal or fraudulent, but a lawyer may discuss the legal consequences of any proposed course of conduct with a client and may counsel or assist a client to make a good faith effort to determine the validity, scope, meaning or application of the law.  

Variations from ABA Model Rule are noted.  

Comments not included.  

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<th>Alabama</th>
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| (a) A lawyer shall abide by a client's decisions concerning the objectives of representation, subject to paragraphs (c), (d) and (e), and shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer shall abide by a client's decision whether to accept an offer of settlement of a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client's decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial and whether the client will testify.  

(b) Same as MR.  

(c) A lawyer may limit the scope of the representation if the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances and the client gives informed consent.  

(1) The client’s informed consent must be confirmed in writing unless: |
As of February 7, 2020

| (i) the representation of the client consists solely of telephone consultation; |
| (ii) the representation is provided by a lawyer employed by a nonprofit legal-services program or participating in a pro bono program approved by the Alabama State Bar pursuant to Rule 6.6 and the lawyer’s representation consists solely of providing information and advice or the preparation of legal documents; or |
| (iii) the court appoints the attorney for a limited purpose that is set forth in the appointment order. |
| (2) If the client gives informed consent in writing signed by the client, there shall be a presumption that: |
| (i) the representation is limited to the attorney and the services described in the writing; and |
| (ii) the attorney does not represent the client generally or in matters other than those identified in the writing. |
| (d) Same as MR. |
| (e) When a lawyer knows that a client expects assistance not permitted by the Rules of Professional Conduct or other law, the lawyer shall consult with the client regarding the relevant limitations on the lawyer's conduct. |


| Alaska | (a) Subject to paragraphs (c), (d), and (e), a lawyer shall abide by a client’s decisions concerning the objectives of representation and shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer may take such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation. A lawyer shall abide by a client’s decision whether to offer or accept a settlement. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client’s decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial, whether the client will testify, and whether to take an appeal. |
| (b) Same as MR. |
| (c) A lawyer may limit the scope of the representation if the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances and the client consents after consultation. |
| (1) If a written fee agreement is required by Rule 1.5, the agreement shall describe the limitation on the representation. |
| (2) The lawyer shall discuss with the client whether a written notice of representation should be provided to other interested parties. |
| (3) An otherwise unrepresented person to whom limited representation is being provided or has been provided in accordance with this rule is considered to be unrepresented for purposes of Rules 4.2 and 4.3 unless the opposing lawyer knows of or has been provided with: |
(A) a written notice stating that the lawyer is to communicate only with the limited representation lawyer as to the subject matter of the limited representation; or
(B) a written notice of the time period during which the lawyer is to communicate only with the limited representation lawyer concerning the subject matter of the limited representation.

d) Except as provided in paragraph (f), a lawyer shall not counsel or assist a client to engage in conduct that the lawyer knows is criminal or fraudulent, but a lawyer may discuss the legal consequences of any proposed course of conduct with a client and may counsel or assist a client to make a good faith effort to determine the validity, scope, meaning or application of the law.

e) When a lawyer knows that a client expects assistance not permitted by the rules of professional conduct or other law, the lawyer shall consult with the client regarding the relevant limitations on the lawyer’s conduct.

(f) A lawyer may counsel a client regarding Alaska’s marijuana laws and assist the client to engage in conduct that the lawyer reasonably believes is authorized by those laws. If Alaska law conflicts with federal law, the lawyer shall also advise the client regarding related federal law and policy.


Arizona

Same as MR

Last accessed 1/24/2020 here:
https://www.azbar.org/Ethics/RulesofProfessionalConduct/ViewRule?id=4

Arkansas

(a) Same as MR.

(b) Same as MR.

(c) A lawyer may limit the scope of the representation if the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances and the client gives informed consent.

(1) The client's informed consent must be confirmed in writing unless:
(A) the representation of the client consists solely of a telephone consultation;
(B) the representation is provided by a lawyer employed by a nonprofit legal services program or participating in a program authorized by Rule 6.5 and the lawyer's representation consists solely of providing information and advice or the preparation of legal documents; or
(C) the court appoints the attorney for a limited purpose that is set forth in the appointment order.

(2) If the client gives informed consent as required by this rule, there shall be a presumption that:
(A) the representation is limited to the attorney and the services as agreed upon; and
(B) the attorney does not represent the client generally or in matters other than those as agreed upon.
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<th>State</th>
<th>Details</th>
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| California | (a) Subject to rule 1.2.1, a lawyer shall abide by a client’s decisions concerning the objectives of representation and, as required by rule 1.4, shall reasonably consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. Subject to Business and Professions Code section 6068, subdivision (e)(1) and rule 1.6, a lawyer may take such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation. A lawyer shall abide by a client’s decision whether to settle a matter. Except as otherwise provided by law in a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client’s decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial and whether the client will testify.  
(b) A lawyer may limit the scope of the representation if the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances, is not otherwise prohibited by law, and the client gives informed consent. | [https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Attorneys/Conduct-Discipline/Rules/Rules-of-Professional-Conduct/Current-Rules](https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Attorneys/Conduct-Discipline/Rules/Rules-of-Professional-Conduct/Current-Rules) |
| Colorado | (a) Same as MR.  
(b) Same as MR.  
(c) A lawyer may limit the scope or objectives, or both, of the representation if the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances and the client gives informed consent. A lawyer may provide limited representation to pro se parties as permitted by C.R.C.P. 11(b) and C.R.C.P. 311(b).  
| Connecticut | (a) Subject to subsections (c) and (d), a lawyer shall abide by a client’s decisions concerning the objectives of representation and, as required by Rule 1.4, shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer may take such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation. A lawyer shall abide by a client’s decision whether to settle a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client’s decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial and whether the client will testify. Subject to revocation by the client and to the terms of the contract, a client’s decision to settle a matter shall be implied where the lawyer is retained to represent the client by a third party obligated under the terms of a contract to provide the client with a defense |  |
and indemnity for the loss, and the third party elects to settle a matter without contribution by the client.

(b) Same as MR.

(c) A lawyer may limit the scope of the representation if the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances and the client gives informed consent. Such informed consent shall not be required when a client cannot be located despite reasonable efforts where the lawyer is retained to represent a client by a third party that is obligated by contract to provide the client with a defense.

(d) A lawyer shall not counsel a client to engage, or assist a client, in conduct that the lawyer knows is criminal or fraudulent, but a lawyer may (1) discuss the legal consequences of any proposed course of conduct with a client; (2) counsel or assist a client to make a good faith effort to determine the validity, scope, meaning or application of the law; or (3) counsel or assist a client regarding conduct expressly permitted by Connecticut law, provided that the lawyer counsels the client about the legal consequences, under other applicable law, of the client’s proposed course of conduct.

Last accessed on 1/27/20 here: https://www.jud.ct.gov/Publications/PracticeBook/PB.pdf

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<th>Delaware</th>
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<th>District of Columbia</th>
<th>(a) A lawyer shall abide by a client’s decisions concerning the objectives of representation, subject to paragraphs (c), (d), and (e), and shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer may take such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation. A lawyer shall abide by a client’s decision whether to accept an offer of settlement of a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client’s decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial, and whether the client will testify.</th>
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<td>(b) Same as MR.</td>
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<td>(c) Same as MR.</td>
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<td>(d) A government lawyer’s authority and control over decisions concerning the representation may, by statute or regulation, be expanded beyond the limits imposed by paragraphs (a) and (c).</td>
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<td>(e) Same as MR 1.2(d).</td>
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(f) When a lawyer knows that a client expects assistance not permitted by the Rules of Professional Conduct or other law, the lawyer shall consult with the client regarding the relevant limitations on the lawyer’s conduct.


| Florida | (a) Lawyer to Abide by Client’s Decisions. Subject to subdivisions (c) and (d), a lawyer shall abide by a client’s decisions concerning the objectives of representation, and, as required by rule 4-1.4, shall reasonably consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer may take such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation. A lawyer shall abide by a client’s decision whether to settle a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client’s decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial, and whether the client will testify.

(b) Same as MR.

(c) Limitation of Objectives and Scope of Representation. If not prohibited by law or rule, a lawyer and client may agree to limit the objectives or scope of the representation if the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances and the client gives informed consent in writing. If the attorney and client agree to limit the scope of the representation, the lawyer shall advise the client regarding applicability of the rule prohibiting communication with a represented person.

(d) Criminal or Fraudulent Conduct. A lawyer shall not counsel a client to engage, or assist a client, in conduct that the lawyer knows or reasonably should know is criminal or fraudulent. However, a lawyer may discuss the legal consequences of any proposed course of conduct with a client and may counsel or assist a client to make a good faith effort to determine the validity, scope, meaning, or application of the law, and may counsel or assist a client regarding conduct expressly permitted by

| Georgia | Same as MR.

Adds sentence to end: The maximum penalty for a violation of this rule is disbarment.


| Hawaii | (a) Same as MR.

(b) Same as MR.

(c) Same as MR.

(d) A lawyer shall not counsel a client to engage, or assist a client, in conduct that the lawyer knows is criminal or fraudulent, but a lawyer may discuss the legal consequences of any proposed course of conduct with a client and may counsel or assist a client to make a good faith effort to determine the validity, scope, meaning, or application of the law, and may counsel or assist a client regarding conduct expressly permitted by
Hawaiʻi law, provided that the lawyer counsels the client about the legal consequences, under other applicable law, of the client’s proposed course of conduct.

(e) When a lawyer knows or reasonably should know that a client expects assistance not permitted by the Rules of Professional Conduct or other law, the lawyer shall consult with the client regarding the relevant limitations on the lawyer’s conduct. See Rule 1.4(a)(5) of these Rules.

Last accessed 1/27/20 here: [https://www.courts.state.hi.us/docs/court_rules/rules/hrpcond.htm#Rule%207.2](https://www.courts.state.hi.us/docs/court_rules/rules/hrpcond.htm#Rule%207.2)

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<td>Illinois</td>
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<td>(b) Same as MR</td>
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<td>(c) Same as MR</td>
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<td>(d) A lawyer shall not counsel a client to engage, or assist a client, in conduct that the lawyer knows is criminal or fraudulent, but a lawyer may (1) discuss the legal consequences of any proposed course of conduct with a client, (2) counsel or assist a client to make a good-faith effort to determine the validity, scope, meaning or application of the law, and (3) counsel or assist a client in conduct expressly permitted by Illinois law that may violate or conflict with federal or other law, as long as the lawyer advises the client about that federal or other law and its potential consequences.</td>
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<td>(e) After accepting employment on behalf of a client, a lawyer shall not thereafter delegate to another lawyer not in the lawyer’s firm the responsibility for performing or completing that employment, without the client’s informed consent.</td>
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<td>Indiana</td>
<td>Same as MR</td>
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<td>Iowa</td>
<td>(a) Subject to paragraphs (c) and (d), a lawyer shall abide by a client’s decisions concerning the objectives of representation and, as required by rule 32:1.4, shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer may take such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation. A lawyer shall abide by a client’s decision whether to settle a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client’s decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial, and whether the client will testify.</td>
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<td>(b) Same as MR</td>
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(c) A lawyer may limit the scope of the representation if the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances and the client gives informed consent.

(1) The client’s informed consent must be confirmed in writing unless: (i) the representation of the client consists solely of telephone consultation; (ii) the representation is provided by a lawyer employed by a nonprofit legal services program or participating in a nonprofit or court-annexed legal services program and the lawyer’s representation consists solely of providing information and advice or the preparation of court-approved legal forms; or (iii) the court appoints the attorney for a limited purpose that is set forth in the appointment order.

(2) If the client gives informed consent in a writing signed by the client, there shall be a presumption that: (i) the representation is limited to the attorney and the services described in the writing; and (ii) the attorney does not represent the client generally or in any matters other than those identified in the writing.

(d) Same as MR.


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<td>Kansas</td>
<td>(a) A lawyer shall abide by a client’s decisions concerning the lawful objectives of representation, subject to paragraphs (c), (d) and (e), and shall consult with the client as to the means which the lawyer shall choose to pursue. A lawyer shall abide by a client’s decision whether to settle a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client’s decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial and whether the client will testify.</td>
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<td>(b) Same as MR.</td>
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<td>(c) Same as MR.</td>
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<td>(d) Same as MR.</td>
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<td>(e) When a lawyer knows that a client expects assistance not permitted by the rules of professional conduct or other law, the lawyer shall consult with the client regarding the relevant limitations on the lawyer’s conduct.</td>
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<td>Kentucky</td>
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| Maine     | (a) Subject to paragraphs (c) and (d), a lawyer shall abide by a client’s decisions concerning the objectives of representation and, as required by Rule 1.4, shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer may take such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation. Subject to the Rules with respect to Declining or Terminating Representation (Rule 1.16), a lawyer shall abide by a client’s decision whether to settle a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client’s decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial and whether the client will testify.  
(b) Same as MR.  
(c) A lawyer may limit the scope of representation if the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances and the client provides informed consent after consultation. If, after consultation, the client consents, an attorney may enter a limited appearance on behalf of an otherwise unrepresented party involved in a court proceeding. A lawyer who signs a complaint, counterclaim, cross-claim or any amendment thereto that is filed with the court, may not thereafter limit representation as provided in this rule, without leave of court.  
(d) A lawyer, who under the auspices of a non-profit organization or a court-annexed program provides limited representation to a client without expectation of either the lawyer or the client that the lawyer will provide continuing representation in the matter, is subject to the requirements of Rules 1.7, 1.9, 1.10 and 1.11 only if the lawyer is aware that the representation of the client involves a conflict-of-interest.  
(e) Same as MR 1.2(d).  
| Maryland  | (a) Subject to sections (c) and (d) of this Rule, an attorney shall abide by a client's decisions concerning the objectives of the representation and, when appropriate, shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. An attorney may take such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation. An attorney shall abide by a client's decision whether to settle a matter. In a criminal case, the attorney shall abide by the client's decision, after consultation with the attorney, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial and whether the client will testify.  
(b) An attorney's representation of a client, including representation by appointment, does not constitute an endorsement of the client's political, economic, social or moral views or activities.  
(c) An attorney may limit the scope of the representation in accordance with applicable Maryland Rules if (1) the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances, (2) the client gives informed consent, and (3) the scope and limitations of any |
representation, beyond an initial consultation or brief advice provided without a fee, are clearly set forth in a writing, including any duty on the part of the attorney under Rule 1-324 to forward notices to the client.

(d) An attorney shall not counsel a client to engage, or assist a client, in conduct that the attorney knows is criminal or fraudulent, but an attorney may discuss the legal consequences of any proposed course of conduct with a client and may counsel or assist a client to make a good faith effort to determine the validity, scope, meaning or application of the law.

Last accessed 1/27/2020 here: [https://www.courts.state.md.us/attygrievance/rules](https://www.courts.state.md.us/attygrievance/rules)

| Massachusetts | (a) A lawyer shall seek the lawful objectives of his or her client through reasonably available means permitted by law and these Rules. A lawyer does not violate this Rule, however, by acceding to reasonable requests of opposing counsel which do not prejudice the rights of his or her client, by being punctual in fulfilling all professional commitments, by avoiding offensive tactics, or by treating with courtesy and consideration all persons involved in the legal process. A lawyer shall abide by a client’s decision whether to accept an offer of settlement of a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client’s decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial, and whether the client will testify.

(b) Same as MR.

(c) Same as MR.

(d) Same as MR.


| Michigan | (a) A lawyer shall seek the lawful objectives of a client through reasonably available means permitted by law and these rules. A lawyer does not violate this rule by acceding to reasonable requests of opposing counsel that do not prejudice the rights of the client, by being punctual in fulfilling all professional commitments, or by avoiding offensive tactics. A lawyer shall abide by a client's decision whether to accept an offer of settlement or mediation evaluation of a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client's decision, after consultation with the lawyer, with respect to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial, and whether the client will testify. In representing a client, a lawyer may, where permissible, exercise professional judgment to waive or fail to assert a right or position of the client.

(b) A lawyer licensed to practice in the State of Michigan may limit the scope of a representation, file a limited appearance in a civil action, and act as counsel of record for the limited purpose identified in that appearance, if the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances and the client gives informed consent, preferably confirmed in writing.
(1) A lawyer licensed to practice in the State of Michigan may draft or partially draft pleadings, briefs, and other papers to be filed with the court. Such assistance does not require the signature or identification of the lawyer, but does require the following statement on the document: "This document was drafted or partially drafted with the assistance of a lawyer licensed to practice in the State of Michigan, pursuant to Michigan Rule of Professional Conduct 1.2(b)."

(2) The filing of such documents is not and shall not be deemed an appearance by the lawyer in the case. Any filing prepared pursuant to this rule shall be signed by the party designated as "self-represented" and shall not be signed by the lawyer who provided drafting preparation assistance. Further, the lawyer providing document preparation assistance without entering a general appearance may rely on the client’s representation of the facts, unless the lawyer has reason to believe that such representation is false, seeks objectives that are inconsistent with the lawyer’s obligation under the Rules of Professional Conduct, or asserts claims or defenses pursuant to pleadings or papers that would, if signed by the lawyer, violate MCR 1.109, or which are materially insufficient.

(c) A lawyer shall not counsel a client to engage, or assist a client, in conduct that the lawyer knows is illegal or fraudulent, but a lawyer may discuss the legal consequences of any proposed course of conduct with a client and may counsel or assist a client to make a good-faith effort to determine the validity, scope, meaning, or application of the law.

(d) When a lawyer knows that a client expects assistance not permitted by the Rules of Professional Conduct or other law, the lawyer shall consult with the client regarding the relevant limitations on the lawyer's conduct.

Last accessed 1/27/20 here.

**Minnesota**

Same as MR.

Last accessed 02/07/20 at
https://www.revisor.mn.gov/court_rules/pr/subtype/cond/id/1.2/

**Mississippi**

(a) A lawyer shall abide by a client's decisions concerning the objectives of representation, subject to paragraphs (c), (d) and (e), and shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer shall abide by a client's decision whether to accept an offer of settlement of a matter. In a criminal case, a lawyer shall abide by the client's decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial and whether the client will testify.

(b) Same as MR.

(c) Same as MR.

(d) Same as MR.
As of February 7, 2020

| Missouri | (a) A lawyer shall abide by a client's decisions concerning the objectives of representation, subject to Rule 4-1.2(c), (f) and (g), and shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer shall abide by a client's decision whether to accept an offer of settlement of a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client's decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial and whether the client will testify.

(b) Same as MR.

(c) A lawyer may limit the scope of representation if the client gives informed consent in a writing signed by the client to the essential terms of the representation and the lawyer's limited role. Use of a written notice and consent form substantially similar to that contained in the comment to this Rule 4-1.2 creates the presumptions: (1) the representation is limited to the lawyer and the services described in the form, and (2) the lawyer does not represent the client generally or in any matters other than those identified in the form.

(d) The requirement of a writing signed by the client does not apply to: (1) an initial consultation with any lawyer, or (2) pro bono services provided through a nonprofit organization, a court-annexed program, a bar association, or an accredited law school, (3) services provided by a not-for-profit organization funded in whole or in part by the Legal Services Corporation established by 42 USC Sec. 2996b.

(e) An otherwise unrepresented party to whom limited representation is being provided or has been provided is considered to be unrepresented for purposes of communication under Rule 4-4.2 and Rule 4-4.3 except to the extent the lawyer acting within the scope of limited representation provides other counsel with a written notice of a time period within which other counsel shall communicate only with the lawyer of the party who is otherwise self-represented.

(f) A lawyer shall not counsel a client to engage, or assist a client, in conduct that the lawyer knows is criminal or fraudulent, but a lawyer may discuss the legal consequences of any proposed course of conduct with a client and may counsel or assist a client to make a good faith effort to determine the validity, scope, meaning or application of the law.

(g) When a lawyer knows that a client expects assistance not permitted by the Rules of Professional Conduct or other law, the lawyer shall consult with the client regarding the relevant limitations on the lawyer's conduct. |
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<td>Montana</td>
<td>Same as MR.</td>
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| Nebraska        | (a) Subject to paragraphs (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f), a lawyer shall abide by a client's decisions concerning the objectives of representation and, as required by Rule 1.4, shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer may take such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation. A lawyer shall abide by a client's decision whether to settle a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client's decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial and whether the client will testify.  
(b) A lawyer may limit the scope of his or her representation of a client if the limitation is reasonable in the lawyer's judgment under the circumstances and the client gives informed consent to such limited representation.  
(c) A lawyer may prepare pleadings, briefs, and other documents to be filed with the court so long as such filings clearly indicate thereon that said filings are "Prepared By" and the name, business address, and bar number of the lawyer preparing the same. Such actions by the lawyer shall not be deemed an appearance by the lawyer in the case. Any filing prepared under this rule shall be signed by the litigant designated as "pro se," but shall not be signed by the lawyer preparing the filing.  
(d) If, after consultation, the client consents in writing, a lawyer may enter a "Limited Appearance" on behalf of an otherwise unrepresented party involved in a court proceeding, and such appearance shall clearly define the scope of the lawyer's limited representation.  
(e) Upon completion of the "Limited Representation," the lawyer shall within 10 days file a "Certificate of Completion of Limited Representation" with the court. Copies shall be provided to the client and opposing counsel or opposing party if unrepresented. After such filing, the lawyer shall not have any continuing obligation to represent the client. The filing of such certificate shall be deemed to be the lawyer's withdrawal of appearance which shall not require court approval.  
(f) Same as MR 1.2(d). |
| Nevada          | Same as MR.                                                          |
|                 | Last accessed on 1/27/20 here: [https://www.leg.state.nv.us/CourtRules/RPC.html](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/CourtRules/RPC.html) |
| New Hampshire   | (a) Subject to paragraphs (c), (d), and (e), a lawyer shall abide by a client’s decisions concerning the objectives of representation, and, as required by Rule 1.4, shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer may take |
such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation.

(b) Same as MR.

(c) A lawyer may limit the scope of the representation if the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances and the client gives informed consent. In providing limited representation, the lawyer's responsibilities to the client, the court and third parties remain as defined by these Rules as viewed in the context of the limited scope of the representation itself; and court rules when applicable.

(d) A lawyer shall not counsel a client to engage, or assist a client, in conduct that the lawyer knows is criminal or fraudulent, except as stated in paragraph (e), but a lawyer may discuss the legal consequences of any proposed course of conduct with a client and may counsel or assist a client to make a good faith effort to determine the validity, scope, meaning or application of the law.

(e) A lawyer may counsel or assist a client regarding conduct expressly permitted by state or local law that conflicts with federal law, provided that the lawyer counsels the client about the potential legal consequence of the client's proposed course of conduct under applicable federal law.

(f) It is not inconsistent with the lawyer’s duty to seek the lawful objectives of a client through reasonably available means, for the lawyer to accede to reasonable requests of opposing counsel that do not prejudice the rights of the client, avoid the use of offensive or dilatory tactics, or treat opposing counsel or an opposing party with civility.

(g) In addition to requirements set forth in Rule 1.2(c),

(1) a lawyer may provide limited representation to a client who is or may become involved in a proceeding before a tribunal (hereafter referred to as litigation), provided that the limitations are fully disclosed and explained, and the client gives informed consent to the limited representation. The form set forth in section (g) of this Rule has been created to facilitate disclosure and explanation of the limited nature of representation in litigation. Although not prohibited, the provision of limited representation to a client who is involved in litigation and who is entitled as a matter of law to the appointment of counsel is discouraged.

(2) a lawyer who has not entered an applicable limited appearance, and who provides assistance in drafting pleadings, shall advise the client to comply with any rules of the tribunal regarding participation of the lawyer in support of a pro se litigant.

(h) Sample form

Last accessed 1/27/20 here: https://www.courts.state.nh.us/rules/pcon/pcon-1_2.htm
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Text</th>
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| New Jersey    | (a) A lawyer shall abide by a client's decisions concerning the scope and objectives of representation, subject to paragraphs (c) and (d), and as required by RPC 1.4 shall consult with the client about the means to pursue them. A lawyer may take such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation. A lawyer shall abide by a client's decision whether to settle a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall consult with the client and, following consultation, shall abide by the client's decision on the plea to be entered, jury trial, and whether the client will testify.  
(b) Same as MR.  
(c) Same as MR.  
(d) A lawyer shall not counsel or assist a client in conduct that the lawyer knows is illegal, criminal or fraudulent, or in the preparation of a written instrument containing terms the lawyer knows are expressly prohibited by law, but a lawyer may counsel or assist a client in a good faith effort to determine the validity, scope, meaning or application of the law.  
A lawyer may counsel a client regarding New Jersey's medical marijuana laws and assist the client to engage in conduct that the lawyer reasonably believes is authorized by those laws. The lawyer shall also advise the client regarding related federal law and policy.  
| New Mexico    | Same as MR.  
| New York      | (a) Subject to the provisions herein, a lawyer shall abide by a client’s decisions concerning the objectives of representation and, as required by Rule 1.4, shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer shall abide by a client’s decision whether to settle a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client’s decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial and whether the client will testify.  
(b) Same as MR.  
(c) A lawyer may limit the scope of the representation if the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances, the client gives informed consent and where necessary notice is provided to the tribunal and/or opposing counsel.  
(d) A lawyer shall not counsel a client to engage, or assist a client, in conduct that the lawyer knows is illegal or fraudulent, except that the lawyer may discuss the legal consequences of any proposed course of conduct with a client. |
(e) A lawyer may exercise professional judgment to waive or fail to assert a right or position of the client, or accede to reasonable requests of opposing counsel, when doing so does not prejudice the rights of the client.

(f) A lawyer may refuse to aid or participate in conduct that the lawyer believes to be unlawful, even though there is some support for an argument that the conduct is legal.

(g) A lawyer does not violate these Rules by being punctual in fulfilling all professional commitments, by avoiding offensive tactics, and by treating with courtesy and consideration all persons involved in the legal process.


| North Carolina | (a) Subject to paragraphs (c) and (d), a lawyer shall abide by a client's decisions concerning the objectives of representation and, as required by Rule 1.4, shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer may take such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation.  
(1) A lawyer shall abide by a client's decision whether to settle a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client's decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial and whether the client will testify.  
(2) A lawyer does not violate this rule by acceding to reasonable requests of opposing counsel that do not prejudice the rights of a client, by being punctual in fulfilling all professional commitments, by avoiding offensive tactics, or by treating with courtesy and consideration all persons involved in the legal process.  
(3) In the representation of a client, a lawyer may exercise his or her professional judgment to waive or fail to assert a right or position of the client.  
(b) Same as MR.  
(c) A lawyer may limit the scope of the representation if the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances.  
(d) Same as MR.  

| North Dakota | (a) Same as MR.  
(b) Same as MR.  
(c) A lawyer may limit the scope of the representation if the client consents in writing after consultation.  
(d) Same as MR.  

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(e) A lawyer may counsel or assist a client regarding conduct expressly permitted by North Dakota law. To the extent required by Rule 1.1, a lawyer shall counsel such a client about the legal consequences, under other applicable law, of the client's proposed course of conduct.


| Ohio | (a) Subject to divisions (c), (d), and (e) of this rule, a lawyer shall abide by a client’s decisions concerning the objectives of representation and, as required by Rule 1.4, shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer may take action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation. A lawyer does not violate this rule by acceding to requests of opposing counsel that do not prejudice the rights of the client, being punctual in fulfilling all professional commitments, avoiding offensive tactics, and treating with courtesy and consideration all persons involved in the legal process. A lawyer shall abide by a client’s decision whether to settle a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client’s decision as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive a jury trial, and whether the client will testify.

(b) [RESERVED]

(c) A lawyer may limit the scope of a new or existing representation if the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances and communicated to the client, preferably in writing.

(d)(1) A lawyer shall not counsel a client to engage, or assist a client, in conduct that the lawyer knows is illegal or fraudulent. A lawyer may discuss the legal consequences of any proposed course of conduct with a client and may counsel or assist a client in making a good faith effort to determine the validity, scope, meaning, or application of the law.

(2) A lawyer may counsel or assist a client regarding conduct expressly permitted under Sub. H.B. 523 of the 131st General Assembly authorizing the use of marijuana for medical purposes and any state statutes, rules, orders, or other provisions implementing the act. In these circumstances, the lawyer shall advise the client regarding related federal law.

(e) Unless otherwise required by law, a lawyer shall not present, participate in presenting, or threaten to present criminal charges or professional misconduct allegations solely to obtain an advantage in a civil matter.

Last accessed 1/27/20 here

| Oklahoma | (a) Same as MR.

(b) The substance of (b) is in modified Comment at [5]. [Comment [5] reads: “Legal representation should not be denied to people who are unable to afford legal services,
or whose cause is controversial or the subject of popular disapproval. By the same
token, representing a client, including representation by appointment, does not
constitute approval or endorsement of the client's political, economic, social or moral
views or activities.”

(c) Same as MR.
(d) Same as MR.

Last accessed 1/27/20 here:

| Oregon | (a) Subject to paragraphs (b) and (c), a lawyer shall abide by a client's decisions concerning the objectives of representation and, as required by Rule 1.4, shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer may take such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation. A lawyer shall abide by a client's decision whether to settle a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client's decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial and whether the client will testify.

(b) Same as MR.
(c) Same as MR.
(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (c), a lawyer may counsel and assist a client regarding Oregon’s marijuana-related laws. In the event Oregon law conflicts with federal or tribal law, the lawyer shall also advise the client regarding related federal and tribal law and policy.


| Pennsylvania | (a) Same as MR.

(b) Same as MR.
(c) Same as MR.
(d) Same as MR.
(e) A lawyer may counsel or assist a client regarding conduct expressly permitted by Pennsylvania law, provided that the lawyer counsels the client about the legal consequences, under other applicable law, of the client’s proposed course of conduct.


| Rhode Island | (a) Same as MR.

(b) Same as MR. |
(c) Same as MR 1.2(d).

(d) Limited Scope Representation. A lawyer may limit the scope of the representation if the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances and the client gives informed consent. The client must provide knowing and informed consent as part of the written limited scope representation engagement or retainer agreement. Upon entering into a written limited scope representation engagement or retainer agreement, an attorney/client relationship arises between the client and lawyer.

(1) For limited scope representation matters involving only the provision of drafting services, such as drafting a pleading, motion, or other written submission. The lawyer shall sign the document(s) and disclose thereon his or her identity and the nature and extent of the assistance that he or she is providing to the tribunal and to all parties to the litigation. The lawyer shall also indicate on the written document that his or her signature does not constitute an entry of appearance or otherwise mean that the lawyer represents the client in the matter beyond assisting in the preparation of the document(s). The attorney/client relationship between the client and the lawyer engaged to provide limited scope drafting services shall terminate in accordance with Rule 1.16(d) upon the filing of all document(s) the lawyer was engaged to draft.

(2) For limited scope representation matters involving court proceedings in connection with, in addition to, or independent of the provision of drafting services. The lawyer shall make a limited appearance on behalf of the otherwise unrepresented client by filing an Entry of Limited Appearance. This Entry of Limited Appearance cannot be filed until the otherwise unrepresented client also files a pro se appearance in the case. The Entry of Limited Appearance shall state precisely the court event to which the limited appearance pertains. A lawyer may not file an Entry of Limited Appearance for more than one court event in a civil case without leave of the court and the written consent of the client. A lawyer may not enter a limited appearance for the sole purpose of making evidentiary objections. A limited appearance also shall not allow both a lawyer and a litigant to argue at the same court event during the period of the limited appearance.

(3) Termination of Limited Scope Representation. Upon completion of a limited scope representation conducted pursuant to Rule 1.2(d)(2), a lawyer shall withdraw by filing a Notice of Withdrawal of Limited Appearance in the court in which the appearance was made, with written notice to the client. No formal motion to withdraw is required and the Notice of Withdrawal of Limited Appearance when filed will be treated as a withdrawal as a matter of course when the lawyer certifies that the purpose for which the appearance was entered has been accomplished and that written notice of the withdrawal has been given to the client. The Notice of Withdrawal of Limited Appearance shall include the client’s name, address, and telephone number, unless otherwise provided by law. The lawyer must file a Notice of Withdrawal of Limited Appearance for each court event for which the lawyer has filed an Entry of Limited Appearance. Such withdrawal shall be done as soon as practicable. A lawyer who seeks to withdraw before the purpose of the limited appearance has been accomplished may do so only on motion and with notice. Upon the submission of the Notice of Withdrawal of Limited Appearance in accordance with this subsection, the representation of the client is terminated in accordance with Rule 1.16(d).
(4) A pleading, motion, Entry of Limited Appearance, Notice of Withdrawal of Limited Appearance, or any other document filed by a lawyer making a limited appearance under subsections 1 through 3 shall comply with the requirements of Rule 1.2(d).

Last accessed 1/28/20 here:
https://www.courts.ri.gov/publicresources/disciplinaryboard/pdf/article5.pdf

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<td>South Carolina</td>
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<td>Tennessee</td>
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<td>Texas</td>
<td>a) Subject to paragraphs (b), (c), (d), and (e), (f), and (g), a lawyer shall abide by a client's decisions: (1) concerning the objectives and general methods of representation; (2) whether to accept an offer of settlement of a matter, except as otherwise authorized by law; (3) In a criminal case, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial, and whether the client will testify. (b) A lawyer may limit the scope, objectives and general methods of the representation if the client consents after consultation. (c) Same as MR 1.2(d). (d) When a lawyer has confidential information clearly establishing that a client is likely to commit a criminal or fraudulent act that is likely to result in substantial injury to the financial interests or property of another, the lawyer shall promptly make reasonable efforts under the circumstances to dissuade the client from committing the crime or fraud. (e) When a lawyer has confidential information clearly establishing that the lawyer's client has committed a criminal or fraudulent act in the commission of which the lawyer's services have been used, the lawyer shall make reasonable efforts under the circumstances to persuade the client to take corrective action. (f) When a lawyer knows that a client expects representation not permitted by the rules of professional conduct or other law, the lawyer shall consult with the client regarding the relevant limitations on the lawyer's conduct. (g) A lawyer shall take reasonable action to secure the appointment of a guardian or other legal representative for, or seek other protective orders with respect to, a client whenever the lawyer reasonably believes that the client lacks legal competence and that such action should be taken to protect the client. Last accessed 1/28/20 here.</td>
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<td>Utah</td>
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<td>Vermont</td>
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| Virginia   | (a) A lawyer shall abide by a client's decisions concerning the objectives of representation, subject to paragraphs (b), (c), and (d), and shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer shall abide by a client's decision, after consultation with the lawyer, whether to accept an offer of settlement of a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client's decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial and whether the client will testify.  
(b) A lawyer may limit the objectives of the representation if the client consents after consultation.  
(c) Same as MR 1.2(d).  
(d) A lawyer may take such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation.  
(e) When a lawyer knows that a client expects assistance not permitted by the Rules of Professional Conduct or other law, the lawyer shall consult with the client regarding the relevant limitations on the lawyer's conduct.  
| Washington | (a) Same as MR.                                                       |
|            | (b) Same as MR.                                                       |
|            | (c) Same as MR.                                                       |
|            | (d) Same as MR.                                                       |
|            | (e) [Reserved.]                                                      |
|            | (f) A lawyer shall not purport to act as a lawyer for any person or organization if the lawyer knows or reasonably should know that the lawyer is acting without the authority of that person or organization, unless the lawyer is authorized or required to so act by law or a court order.  
<p>| West Virginia | (a) Same as MR.                                                  |</p>
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| West Virginia | (b) Same as MR.  
(c) Same as MR.  
(d) Same as MR.  
(e) A lawyer may counsel a client regarding West Virginia law and assist the client to engage in conduct that the lawyer reasonably believes is authorized by those laws. If West Virginia law conflicts with federal law, the lawyer shall also advise the client regarding related federal law and its potential consequences.  
| Wisconsin | (a) Subject to pars. (c) and (d), a lawyer shall abide by a client's decisions concerning the objectives of representation and, as required by SCR 20:1.4, shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer may take such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation. A lawyer shall abide by a client's decision whether to settle a matter. In a criminal case or any proceeding that could result in deprivation of liberty, the lawyer shall abide by the client's decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial and whether the client will testify.  
(b) Same as MR.  
(c) A lawyer may limit the scope of the representation if the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances and the client gives informed consent. The client’s informed consent must be in writing except as set forth in sub. (1).  
(1) The client’s informed consent need not be given in writing if: a. the representation of the client consists solely of telephone consultation; b. the representation is provided by a lawyer employed by or participating in a program sponsored by a nonprofit organization, a bar association, an accredited law school, or a court and the lawyer’s representation consists solely of providing information and advice or the preparation of court-approved legal forms; c. the court appoints the lawyer for a limited purpose that is set forth in the appointment order; d. the representation is provided by the state public defender pursuant to Ch. 977, stats., including representation provided by a private attorney pursuant to an appointment by the state public defender; or e. the representation is provided to an existing client pursuant to an existing lawyer-client relationship. (2) If the client gives informed consent in writing signed by the client, there shall be a presumption that: a. the representation is limited to the lawyer and the services described in the writing, and b. the lawyer does not represent the client generally or in matters other than those identified in the writing.  
Last accessed 1/28/20 here: [https://www.wicourts.gov/courts/offices/docs/olrscr20annotated.pdf](https://www.wicourts.gov/courts/offices/docs/olrscr20annotated.pdf) |
| WY | (a) Subject to paragraphs (c), (d), and (e), a lawyer shall abide by a client’s decisions concerning the objectives of representation, and, as required by Rule 1.4, shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer may take |
such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation. A lawyer shall abide by a client’s decision whether to settle a matter. In a criminal case, the lawyer shall abide by the client’s decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial and whether the client will testify.

(b) Same as MR.

(c) A lawyer may limit the scope of the representation if the limitation is reasonable under the circumstances and the client gives informed consent. An otherwise unrepresented person to whom limited representation is being provided or has been provided in accordance with this rule is considered to be unrepresented for purposes of Rules 4.2 and 4.3 unless the opposing lawyer knows of or has been provided with: (1) a written notice stating that the lawyer is to communicate only with the limited representation lawyer as to the subject matter of the limited representation; or (2) a written notice of the time period during which the lawyer is to communicate only with the limited representation lawyer concerning the subject matter of the limited representation.

(d) Same as MR.

(e) When a lawyer is appointed to act as a guardian ad litem, the lawyer shall represent what he or she reasonably believes to be in the best interests of the individual. The lawyer shall not, therefore, be bound by the individual’s objectives for the representation. The lawyer shall, however, consult with the individual, in a manner appropriate to the age and/or abilities of the individual, as to the objectives the lawyer intends to pursue, as well as the means by which those objectives will be pursued.