

PLAGIARISM, DEFAMATION, AND PRIVACY RIGHTS QUICK-GUIDE

PLAGIARISM

- Gives the impression that you have written or thought something that is not your work
- Intentional or unintentional use of another person's expression or ideas without properly crediting the source
 - Writings, tables, charts, graphics, concepts, theories, interpretations, observations, hypotheses, research findings, data, notes, study models, and the organization or logic of another's argument
- Includes:
 - Omission of quotation marks
 - Paraphrasing source material without citation
 - Falsely assuming authorship by wholly expropriating another's work and passing it off as one's own
- Consequences—censure, suspension, fines, dismissal from employment, and revocation of a degree or professional license
- Use citations for:
 - Direct quotations
 - Borrowed ideas
 - Paraphrases and summaries
 - Facts that are not common knowledge

DEFAMATION AND INJURIOUS FALSEHOOD

- Defamation—a false statement of fact that tends to harm the reputation of an individual or business entity by exposure to contempt or ridicule, lowering the estimation of the community, or deterring others from associating or dealing with the defamed individual or entity
- Injurious falsehood—derogatory false assertions about business entities that are harmful without being defamatory, such as disparagement of quality of a product or service

PRIVACY RIGHTS

- Laws differ from state to state.
- Four kinds of privacy rights:
 - Public disclosure of private facts—revealing truthful private or embarrassing facts about a person without legitimate public concern or newsworthiness
 - False light—falsely portraying a person as something highly offensive that he or she is not
 - Intrusion upon seclusion—intrusion into private areas or affairs, including wrongful use of tape recorders and cameras
 - Misappropriation of name or likeness/right of publicity—unauthorized use of a person's name, photograph, likeness, voice, or endorsement to promote the sale of a commercial product or service