



1

MS Rules of Prof. Conduct, Rule 1.4 - COMMUNICATION



A lawyer shall keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information. A lawyer shall explain a matter, using age-appropriate language, to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions regarding the representation at all stages of the proceedings.

2



3

Rule 1.4 Break Down

* Keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter.



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4

Rule 1.4 Break Down



Promptly comply with reasonable requests for information.

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5

Rule 1.4 Break Down

Shall explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions regarding the representation at all stages of the proceedings.



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6

Rule 1.4 Break Down

Explanations shall be made using age-appropriate language.



vs.



7



Communication for In-Court Proceedings

Need to preview each hearing before it happens.

8

Communication for In-Court Proceedings

- * Need to review what happened in each hearing after it happens.
- * Provide an opinion as to how that hearing has affected the course of the overall case.
- * Allow client opportunity to ask questions and raise concerns.



9

Keep Client Informed About the Case's Progression Outside the Courtroom By:

Sharing copies of and discussing motions filed.



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10

Keep Client Informed About the Case's Progression Outside the Courtroom By:



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Soliciting and following up on the client's investigatory leads.

11

Keep Client Informed About the Case's Progression Outside the Courtroom By:

* Monitoring the client's compliance with release conditions, or if client is detained, making sure that the client is receiving adequate services.

* Being available to address the client's concerns as the case proceeds.

12

Keep Client Informed About the Case's Progression Outside the Courtroom By:

Allocating adequate time for counseling.



13

Keep Client Informed About the Case's Progression Outside the Courtroom By:



Offering balanced and objective advice when appropriate.

14

Communication & Confidentiality



Communication & Confidentiality

Counsel creates a safe, comfortable, and to the extent possible private environment.

15



Communication with Detained Clients

Counsel visits the client at the detention facility.

16

Communication with Detained Clients

If the detention facility is too remote, counsel keeps in regular phone contact with the client.



17

Communication with Detained Clients



Informs the client's family how and when they can visit the client.

18



Earns the child's trust over time.

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