

RLGL § 33. A Lawyer's Duties When a Representation Terminates

(1) In terminating a representation, a lawyer must take steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect the client's interests, such as giving notice to the client of the termination, allowing time for employment of other counsel, surrendering papers and property to which the client is entitled, and refunding any advance payment of fee the lawyer has not earned.

(2) Following the termination of a representation, a lawyer must:

(a) Observe obligations to a former client such as those dealing with client confidences (see Chapter 5), conflicts of interest (see Chapter 8), client property and documents (see §§ 44-46), and fee collections (see § 41);

(b) Take no action on behalf of a former client without new authorization and give reasonable notice, to those who might otherwise be misled, that the lawyer lacks authority to act for the client;

(c) Take reasonable steps to convey to the former client any material communication the lawyer receives relating to the matter involved in the representation; and

(d) Take no unfair advantage of a former client by abusing knowledge or trust acquired by means of the representation.

