

FIU Law Review  
PUBLICATION ETHICS AND BEST PRACTICES  
STATEMENT

Our publication ethics and best practices statement is primarily based on the Committee on Publication Ethics' Code of Conduct and Best-Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors.

EDITORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Publication Decisions

The FIU Law Review is a bi-annual symposium-based law journal. It is a student-edited journal. Only requested submissions and student staff member comments are considered for publication. Invited submissions are selected for final publication approval by the Editorial Board

Members of the Editorial Board will evaluate manuscripts without regard to the authors' race, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief, ethnic origin, citizenship, or political philosophy. The decision will be based on the paper's importance, originality and clarity, and its relevance to the journal's scope. Current legal requirements regarding libel, copyright infringement, and plagiarism should also be considered.

Confidentiality

Editors must not disclose any information about a submitted manuscript to anyone other than the corresponding author, reviewers, potential reviewers, other editorial advisers, and the publisher, as appropriate.

Disclosure and Conflicts of Interest

Unpublished materials disclosed in a submitted paper will not be used by the editor or the members of the editorial board for their own research purposes without the author's explicit written consent.

REVIEWERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Contribution to Editorial Decisions

The Editor-in-Chief and the Editorial Board may request the opinion of a qualified external reviewer in making editorial decisions, which may also serve the author in improving the paper.

### Confidentiality

Any manuscripts received for review must be treated by law review members as confidential documents. They must not be disclosed to or discussed with others except as authorized by the Editorial Board and author.

### Standards of Objectivity

Reviews should be conducted objectively. Personal criticism of the author is inappropriate. Members of the Law Review staff should refer to *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation* and *The Chicago Manual of Style* to make citation and grammatical edits.

### Acknowledgement of Sources

Law Review staff should identify all of the sources that the paper has been cited to. They should verify whether observations or arguments derived from other publications are accompanied by the respective source. Law Review staff will notify the author of any missing sources needed to support a proposition.

### Disclosure and Conflict of Interest

Privileged information or ideas obtained through the review process must be kept confidential and not used for personal advantage.

## AUTHORS' DUTIES

### Reporting Standards

Authors of original research reports should present an accurate account of the work performed as well as an objective discussion of its significance. Underlying data should be represented accurately in the paper. A paper should contain sufficient detail and references to permit others to replicate the work. Fraudulent or knowingly inaccurate statements constitute unethical behavior and are unacceptable.

## Data Access and Retention

Authors could be asked to provide the raw data supporting their article alongside the paper for editorial review and should be prepared to make the data publicly available if practicable. In any event, authors should ensure accessibility of such data to other competent professionals for at least ten years after publication (preferably via an institutional or subject-based data repository or other data center), provided that the confidentiality of any participants can be protected and legal rights concerning proprietary data do not preclude their release.

## Originality, Plagiarism, and Acknowledgement of Sources

Authors will submit only entirely original works, and will appropriately cite or quote the work and/or words of others. Publications that have been influential in determining the nature of the reported work should also be cited.

The Publisher and the Law Review do not support and are not responsible for any plagiarism concerning any articles. Plagiarized articles will be rejected outright. If any plagiarized article is published by mistake, it will be deleted from our website and contents. Authors are fully responsible for plagiarism and are instructed to take care of plagiarism while submitting their manuscripts. Authors are advised not to submit plagiarized articles.

## Multiple, Redundant, or Concurrent Publication

In general, papers describing essentially the same research should not be published in more than one journal. Submitting the same paper to more than one journal constitutes unethical publishing behavior and is unacceptable.

Manuscripts which have been published as copyrighted material elsewhere cannot be submitted. In addition, manuscripts under review by the journal should not be resubmitted to copyrighted publications. However, by submitting a manuscript, the author(s) retain the rights to the published material.

## Authorship of the Paper

Authorship should be limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the conception, design, execution, or interpretation of the paper. All those who have made significant contributions should be listed as co-authors. The

corresponding author ensures that all contributing co-authors and no uninvolved persons are included in the author list. The corresponding author will also verify that all coauthors have approved the final version of the paper and have agreed to its submission for publication.

### Disclosure and Conflicts of Interest

All authors should include a statement disclosing any financial or other substantive conflicts of interest that may be construed to influence the results or interpretation of their manuscript. All sources of financial support for the project should be disclosed.

### Fundamental Errors in Published Works

When an author discovers a significant error or inaccuracy in his/her own published work, it is the author's obligation to promptly notify the journal editor or publisher and to cooperate with the editor to retract or correct the paper in the form of an erratum.

### References

*Code of Conduct and Best Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors*,  
COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION ETHICS (Mar. 7, 2011)  
[http://publicationethics.org/files/Code\\_of\\_conduct\\_for\\_journal\\_editors\\_Mar11.pdf](http://publicationethics.org/files/Code_of_conduct_for_journal_editors_Mar11.pdf).

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