Quick Reference Guide for Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct for the

Dependency and Neglect Practitioner

Rule 1.1: Competence

Rule 1.2: Scope of Representation and Allocation of Authority between Client and Lawyer.

* Subject to the enumerated exceptions in the rule, a lawyer shall abide by a client’s decisions concerning the objective of representation and shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued.

Rule 1.3: Diligence

* A lawyer should pursue a matter on behalf of a client despite opposition, obstruction or personal inconvenience to the lawyer, and take whatever lawful and ethical measures are required to vindicate a client's cause or endeavor.

Rule 1.4: Communication

* Rule defines ethical obligations of communication with clients. A lawyer's regular communication with clients will minimize the occasions on which a client will need to request information concerning the representation.

Rule 1.6: Confidentiality of Information

* Outlines ethical duties for confidentiality and when a lawyer may reveal information relating to the representation.

Rules 1.7, 1.8, 1.9: Conflicts of Interest: Current Clients, Conflicts of Interest: Current Clients: Specific Rules, and Duties to Former Clients

* Defines conflicts of interest; when a lawyer may represent a client despite an apparent conflict, and the duties owed to current and former clients. *See also Rules 1.10, 1.11, 1.12, 1.13, 1.18*

Rule 1.14: Client with Diminished Capacity

* Outlines ethical duties to clients when the lawyer reasonably believes the client is without sufficient mental capacity to act in the client’s own interest.

Rule 3.1: Meritorious Claims and Contentions

* Lawyer may nevertheless so defend the proceeding as to require that every element of the case be established.

Rule 3.3: Candor Toward the Tribunal

* Outlines lawyers ethical duties to present truthful information to the Court and to correct untruthful information previously provided.

Rule 4.2: Communication with Person Represented by Counsel

* Communicating with a represented party requires consent of the representing attorney or court order.

Rule 4.3: Dealing with Unrepresented Parties

* Outlines ethical considerations when dealing with a *Pro Se* party to litigation.

Rule 6.2: Accepting Appointments

* Outlines what establishes “good cause” for a lawyer seeking to avoid appointment of a person by the Court

Rules 8.1-9: Maintaining the Integrity of the Profession

* Outlines procedures for, and discusses, bar admission and disciplinary matters; judicial and legal officials, reporting professional misconduct, professional misconduct, and disciplinary authority.