



Rappler Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Movers

INTRODUCTION

Ethics is ultimately about character – the ability to make right decisions when faced with tough choices.

This Document details Rappler's code of ethics, standards, and guidelines for Interns, Movers (citizen journalists), and all other non-employees of Rappler who volunteer for Rappler in any capacity and for any activity.

Rappler Interns, Movers, and volunteers must always keep in mind that we act in the service and interest of the public, and not our own self-interest.

If you have any questions regarding the contents of this document, contact move.ph@rappler.com.

CORE PRINCIPLES

- Accuracy and Truthfulness
- Fairness and Balance
- Editorial independence
- Minimizing harm

ACCURACY AND TRUTHFULNESS

1. Obtain truthful and correct information from a variety of credible sources. News reports should be based on verified information.
2. When requesting information, introduce yourself, name the media outlet you represent, inform the interlocutor that his/her words may be published, except in cases when the information is confidential or impossible to obtain officially.
3. When gathering information, do not misrepresent yourself. The search for information by hidden means can be justified only in cases when the information in question is of major public interest and could not be otherwise obtained.
4. Present the facts and preserve their true meaning, demonstrate the major links and not allow distortions, even for photos, infographics, and video.
5. Gather information from multiple and verified sources. Do not be content with one or two sources if there is more information to be gathered. Maintain a healthy and constructive skepticism of your sources, data, and information.

FAIRNESS AND BALANCE

1. All sides of a story or issue should be sought to obtain the closest approximation of the truth. You should strive to be fair at all times.
2. Correct mistakes quickly and completely. Corrections of significant mistakes should be published.
3. People criticized should be given the right to reply.
4. Personal commentary and editorializing should be limited to opinion pieces and be kept out of news reports or stories.

EDITORIAL INDEPENDENCE

1. You should not be a spokesperson for a private or group/political interest. Disclose and avoid potential conflict of interest situations, where loyalty to a person, group or institution could affect your ability to report about them truthfully.
2. Reject gifts or privileges that could influence your independence or create a perception of compromised independence.
3. Avoid taking part in activities or being part of organizations which could limit or compromise your independence and endanger your professional integrity.
4. Do not write on behalf of another person or sign under somebody else's story or work with your own name.
5. You may not offer your work to other news outlets without the permission of your supervisors.

MINIMIZING HARM

1. Do not put yourself or your team in danger. Your safety and the safety of others should be your number one priority. No story is worth your own life.
2. Avoid recording conversations and interviews without the consent of those concerned, and then using them for stories.
3. Sources must be protected and arrangements with them kept sacred. Requests for anonymity must be observed.
4. Private individuals – as opposed to public officials – are entitled to a higher degree of privacy. Respect the privacy of individuals even as you pursue stories. Public officials, however, must be held accountable for public interest issues.
5. Private individuals should not be photographed in private environments without their consent
6. Avoid identifying relatives and friends of suspects or convicted people without their consent.

GUIDELINES

1. Dress appropriately and act in a professional manner. You represent your organization and yourself; therefore, act in the manner that earns you the respect and admiration of others.
2. Do not be late. Tardiness indicates laziness and unprofessionalism.
3. Communicate with your team and your supervisor. It is your duty to inform your supervisor of your whereabouts, your work plan, and your output.
4. Be ready for any assignment or task. Plan ahead and prepare.
5. Always ask for feedback from your team and your supervisor.
6. When in doubt, talk to your supervisor. No question is stupid or unimportant.

I have read the Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Movers and agree to abide by the standards of Rappler and subject myself to disciplinary action should I violate the code.

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