

IEEE Reporting Line

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

IEEE is committed to the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct. Everyone acting on behalf of the organization must uphold these same standards to ensure compliance with IEEE's Bylaws, Code of Ethics, Code of Conduct, Policies, and applicable law. We encourage open communication regarding any possible violations.

The IEEE Reporting Line is available 24/7 by phone or web to provide a safe and effective way to raise concerns. IEEE has selected *NAVEX EthicsPoint*, an independent third party, to manage the reporting channel. All reported information is sent to IEEE on a confidential basis and can be submitted anonymously if you choose.

IEEE Reporting Line
<http://www.ieee-ethics-reporting.org/>
+1 888 359 6323

Per IEEE Policy Section 9.10, IEEE does not permit retaliation against members, staff and non-members for raising a good faith compliance or ethics concern, for reporting possible violations of IEEE Constitution and Bylaws, Policies, Code of Conduct, Code of Ethics, Operations Manuals or other procedures; or for assisting in or cooperating with a review of a possible violation.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Who can file a report via the IEEE Reporting Line?

Any individual with personal knowledge of facts which they believe constitute a violation of IEEE's Constitution and Bylaws, Policies, Code of Ethics, Code of Conduct, Operations Manuals, or other IEEE practices or procedures, by a member, staff, or a non-member in the course of their relationship with or participation in IEEE activities, may file a complaint.

Who is the subject of a report filed with IEEE?

A report may be filed against any person who is a member, staff, or a non-member participating in IEEE activities.

What types of issues should I report via the IEEE Reporting Line?

Conference Finance	Geographic Unit Conduct or Practice
Conference Organizing	Geographic Unity Finances
Conference Sponsorship	Geographic Unit Operations and Leadership
Electioneering (Campaigning)	
Staff to Staff Relations	Standards Awards
Volunteer to Staff Relations	Standards Conflict of Interest
	Standards Development and Working Groups
AI-Generated Content Plagiarism	Conference Publications
Computer Society Publications	Conflict of Interest for Paper Submission or Review
Internal Audit	Improper Use or Disclosure of Confidential Data
Misappropriation, Misuse, or Unauthorized Use of IEEE Funds	Multiple Submission or Self-Plagiarism
	Plagiarism
IEEE Grant, Gift, & Fundraising Compliance	IEEE Trade Compliance
IEEE Intellectual Property & Data Protection	
Egregious Ethical Violation (Serious violation of IEEE Code of Ethics)	Retaliation
Egregious Misconduct (Serious violation of IEEE Code of Conduct)	

Cross-Society or Cross-Council Coordination Society or Council Operations and Leadership

Society or Council Conduct or Practice Technical Activities Awards

Society or Council Finances

AND, any other potential violation of the IEEE Constitution and Bylaws, Policies, Code of Conduct, Code of Ethics, Operations Manual or any other IEEE practices or procedures.

Please be aware that the IEEE Ethics Reporting Line will only accept reports regarding **IEEE's business and activities**. IEEE will not review or accept reports regarding any other organization, including the employers of members. IEEE members seeking assistance regarding their employers should seek their own counsel or consult their employers.

What should I include in my Report?

<p>What the IEEE can review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Violations of the IEEE's policies or business operations.• Misconduct related to the IEEE's business, operations, activities, or services.• Actions that materially affect the IEEE's interests, reputation, or operations. <p>*Key considerations *</p> <p>The alleged conduct must have a clear connection to IEEE policies, operations, or interests.</p> <p>Mere, non-material, disagreements or personality conflicts do not constitute reviewable violations.</p> <p>Evidence of actual policy breach or operational harm is required.</p>	<p>Important Limitations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The IEEE does not provide legal advice.• The IEEE does not re-open closed cases or accept appeals of final decisions.• The IEEE does not review duplicate reports separately. Related reports may be combined into a single report.• The IEEE does not review opinion-based submissions. (Reports must identify specific, actionable issues, rather than general feedback or opinions.)• The IEEE does not review potential, hypothetical, or future issues.• IEEE generally does not examine matters involving external organizations (including members' employers).	<p>Important requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reports must be submitted within 5 years of the incident, unless you couldn't reasonably have discovered it earlier.• Reports must be submitted honestly and in good faith -- false, or retaliatory reports may result in consequences.• IEEE membership alone does not create jurisdiction for review.• First-party, verifiable, reports are preferred. Anonymous reports are accepted but may limit investigation capabilities.• Reports must be filed against named individuals, not departments or groups.• Reports on the IEEE Reporting Line, must include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Named individual(s) as subject(s) of alleged wrongdoing• Clear, factual account with specific dates, times, and circumstances• Supporting documentation when available• Specific IEEE policies, rules, or practices allegedly violated• Use only this platform for all report-related communications and inquiries. Other IEEE channels will delay review and be redirected here. Persistent contact via other avenues will not be accepted.
<p>Review Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The IEEE assigns reports to the appropriate Organizational Unit or business unit for review.• The IEEE may decline reports outside its scope or unrelated to IEEE business.• If your report moves forward, subjects will be informed of the allegations through official channels, and given a formal opportunity to provide their perspective, as part of the IEEE's standard review process.• The IEEE may suspend or terminate review of a report if related legal proceedings are initiated.• Due to confidentiality requirements, the IEEE cannot share investigation details, outcomes, participant identities, or rationale for findings with reporters.		

Are reports to the IEEE Reporting Line confidential?

IEEE maintains strict confidentiality for all reports filed through the IEEE Reporting Line. Case details—including the number and names of participants or witnesses interviewed, correspondence, review outcomes, rationales, and related conversations—will not be disclosed to the Reporter, Subject, or other participants. This protects all parties from potential retaliation while ensuring the objectivity and integrity of review processes.

However, in fairness, the Subject will be notified of the report filed against them and given an opportunity to respond and be heard during the review process.

IEEE review bodies maintain confidentiality throughout their investigations to the greatest extent possible. To conduct thorough and fair reviews, they may need to share necessary factual information with witnesses or relevant parties, without disclosing the source's identity or the identities of other participants.

The IEEE Reporting Line accepts anonymous reports, though anonymity may limit investigative capabilities. First-party, verifiable reports are preferred. All reports must be submitted honestly and in good faith.

What happens if I file my report anonymously?

If you choose to file anonymously, IEEE will make every effort to fully investigate your report. However, anonymity can make investigations more challenging, as IEEE may be unable to contact you for additional information or clarification, potentially resulting in significant information gaps.

Anonymous reporting relies on your cooperation. IEEE may need to communicate with you through the IEEE Ethics Reporting Line platform to request more information. We encourage you to check back periodically for any follow-up questions that could help advance the investigation.

What happens after I file my report?

When you submit your report, you will receive a unique case number (called a "Report Key") and be prompted to create a password. Please allow IEEE 7-10 business days to review your report. Note that the IEEE Reporting Line is not an emergency service and cannot address urgent or immediate safety issues.

You can use your Report Key and password to log in to the IEEE Reporting Line at any time to check your report's status, provide additional information, or respond to questions from IEEE. If IEEE requests additional information and does not receive a response within 10 business days, your report will be closed, and you will need to submit a new report if you wish to proceed.