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Letter to Carol Bratton regarding AALL Code of Ethics, September 10, 1974

J. Lamar Woodard

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September 10, 1974

Mrs. Carol Bratton  
Chairperson Committee on Ethics, A.A.L.L.  
Cincinnati Law Library Association  
601 Court House  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Dear Carol:

Pursuant to the request of the Committee, Bill Younger asked that I conduct a session on the proposed Code of Ethics at the Southeastern Chapter meeting on August 21, 1974 at Hilton Head, South Carolina.

I distributed copies of the proposed Code to the membership at the luncheon meeting prior to the session and asked that the members review the Code before the discussion.

The discussion was spirited and, though no formal vote was taken, I am officially reporting for the Chapter the following conclusions:

1. The Proposed Code, in its present form, is unacceptable to the Southeastern Chapter.

2. There is strong feeling that a formal Code of Ethics is not really necessary, and if one is adopted, it should be stated in terms of general principles.

Having heard the comments of the membership at both the Annual meeting and the Southeastern meeting, I recommend that the Committee report to the Executive Board that the present proposed Code of Ethics be abandoned and that the Committee be discharged. If any official statement
is made about the professional responsibilities of law librarians, that statement should be incorporated with a statement of the rights and duties of law librarians.

Sincerely yours,

J. Lamar Woodard
Law Librarian

JLW/bes

c.c. William Younger
Nancy Jo Kitchen