

# Answer Key: Civil Engineering Licensure Exam – Mock Exam (Day 27: Ethics and Professional Practice)

February 24, 2025

## Answer Key

### Section A: Multiple Choice Solutions

1. The primary focus of engineering ethics: **(b) Protecting public safety and welfare**
2. A conflict of interest occurs when: **(b) An engineer has a personal or financial interest that compromises professional judgment**
3. Professional engineers must: **(b) Follow professional and ethical responsibilities above all else**
4. If an engineer finds a serious safety violation: **(b) Report it to the appropriate authorities**
5. Whistleblowing in engineering refers to: **(a) Reporting unethical practices or safety violations**

### Section B: Problem-Solving Solutions

1. Ethical concerns in receiving gifts:
  - Accepting gifts can create a conflict of interest and compromise impartiality.
  - The engineer should decline the gift and report the situation to the appropriate authorities or company management.
2. Ethical responsibilities regarding a design flaw:

- The engineer must prioritize public safety over company interests.
- They should report the issue to management and, if necessary, escalate it to regulatory agencies.

3. Conflict of interest in consulting:

- Accepting a contract from a competitor creates a conflict of interest.
- The engineer should disclose any existing obligations and, if necessary, decline the second contract.

4. Signing plans without review:

- Approving plans without reviewing them violates professional responsibility.
- The engineer should refuse to sign unless they thoroughly verify the calculations.

5. Ethical steps when substandard materials are used:

- The engineer must ensure compliance with safety standards.
- They should raise concerns with management and, if ignored, report the issue to regulatory authorities.