3/67 C Finders fee improper

The Ethics Committee reaffirmed Opinion 1-1964 in holding it is improper for a lawyer to accept a "finder's fee" or "referral fee" from an outside source as compensation for placing a client's business with such firm unless he makes full disclosure to his client and obtains express permission to accept such compensation. A lawyer owes complete allegiance and fidelity to his client and cannot divide such responsibility by accepting financial inducement from an outside source. (3/29/67)