

LEGAL & PROFESSIONAL ADVICE

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Legal and professional advice requires legal and/or professional knowledge, skill, education and judgement and gives a professional or formal opinion on the application of a specific regulation, law or course of action to a particular set of circumstances. Legal and professional advice is usually limited to those who are qualified under the law (such as attorneys, doctors, or accountants).

ANY PERSON ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE HSCG (SUCH AS STAFF, BOARD MEMBERS, PRESIDENT, VOLUNTEERS OR SUB-CONTRACTORS), IS NOT AUTHORIZED NOR QUALIFIED TO GIVE LEGAL, MEDICAL, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE, INVESTMENT, TAX OR OTHER PROFESSIONAL ADVICE.

Any individual asking for professional or legal advice should be informed that the HSCG cannot provide legal or professional advice and should be referred to their own attorney, medical doctor, accountant, etc.

Examples of unacceptable legal or professional advice, and what could be said instead:

Incorrect

“You should set up your business as an LLC.”

“Deduct your membership dues under your Schedule C, Line 8, Advertising expenses.”

“If you lye burn, apply an antibacterial cream and keep bandaged for 2 days.”

Correct

“Contact your attorney to see if an LLC is the correct business type for you.”

“Ask your accountant how to best deduct your HSCG member dues.”

“If the lye burn is significant or is not healing, see your physician.”

LEGAL & PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

Legal & professional information is reiteration of legal fact, such as references to specific laws or regulations on a subject (but not how to apply them to a specific circumstance), general how-to information, definitions, etc.

When answering questions, individuals acting on behalf of the HSCG may give general legal information.

Examples of acceptable statements of legal & professional information:

- ◆ “The regulations that cover product labeling are located on the FDA website. Check the Cosmetic Labeling Manual.”

- ◆ “The product label requires the product identity, net contents, business name and address, ingredient declaration and directions for safe use.”
- ◆ “See this article in the How-To library about how to decide which business type is best for you.”
- ◆ “Check the directions for the IRS Form Schedule C to determine how to deduct your HSCG membership dues.”

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