

UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE SCHOOL OF LAW HONOR BOARD SELECTED EXAMPLES OF HONOR CODE CASES

PLAGIARISM / CHEATING

Fall 2010

Allegation: Complaint alleged that the student cheated on a final exam by using a laptop computer to access the internet when use of computers was specifically forbidden by the professor.

Result: Violation of Honor Code. Student received XF in course (failure as a result of Honor Code violation) and student sent public letter of apology to class.

Report to the Bar? Yes.

Spring 2011

Allegation: Complaint alleged that the student cheated on a final exam by accessing a cell phone during the administration of the exam.

Result: Violation of Honor Code. Student received XF in course (failure as a result of Honor Code violation) and was suspended for one semester.

Report to the Bar? Yes.

Spring 2011

Allegation: Complaint alleged that the student copied answers from a classmate's work during the final examination.

Result: Violation of Honor Code. Student received XF in course (failure as a result of Honor Code violation) and was suspended for one semester.

Report to the Bar? Yes.

Fall 2011

Allegation: Complaint alleged that the student copied the work of his partner and submitted it as his own on a writing assignment.

Result: Matter was dismissed. Student was deemed credible and assignment instructions were ambiguous.

Report to the Bar? Yes, as a dismissed matter.

Fall 2013

Allegation: Complaint alleged that two students collaborated on a take-home exam, borrowing each other's work and turning it in as their own. Students admitted conduct immediately, indicating they misunderstood the instructions.

Result: Finding of Honor Code Violation after a hearing. Both students' grades for the course were reduced to D-.

Report to the Bar? Yes.

UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE SCHOOL OF LAW HONOR BOARD SELECTED EXAMPLES OF HONOR CODE CASES

PLAGIARISM / CHEATING (continued)

Fall 2013

Allegation: Complaint alleged that the student completed several assignments for class by copying word for word from the internet and submitted it as her own work.

Result: Finding of Violation after an Honor Board hearing. Student admitted to altering the documents. Sanctions imposed by Hearing committee: Student received an XF in the course (failure as a result of Honor Code violation), was immediately withdrawn from spring classes and received a three and a half (3 ½) year suspension.

Report to the Bar? Yes.

Spring 2015

Allegation: Complaint alleged that the student accessed unauthorized materials during several daily quizzes in class. The daily quizzes were intended to be “closed book,” meaning no resource materials were permitted. She admitted that she failed to read the course syllabus which indicated the closed book nature of the quizzes and admitted to having accessed the materials. The student did not make any effort to conceal the materials.

Result: Finding of Honor Code Violation after a hearing. The student’s grade for the course was reduced by two and a third letter grades, and the student wrote a letter of apology/explanation to the class.

Report to the Bar? Yes.

Spring 2015

Allegation: The complaint alleged that the student referred to bits of paper from a pocket or from under the laptop during the closed book exam. Complaint was made after the exam was over.

Result: Matter was investigated and considered by Review Panel but was dismissed for lack of evidence.

Report to the Bar? No.

Spring 2015

Allegation: The complaint alleged that, during a “limited source” exam the student referred to a prohibited source.

Result: Matter was investigated, considered by Review Panel, and proceeded to a full hearing. The Hearing committee found there was no violation due to proctor error.

Report to the Bar? Yes, as dismissed.

UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE SCHOOL OF LAW HONOR BOARD SELECTED EXAMPLES OF HONOR CODE CASES

PLAGIARISM / CHEATING (continued)

Fall 2019

Allegation: Complaint alleged that student continued to work on a take-home midterm exam beyond the amount of allotted time.

Result: Finding of Honor Code Violation. Student received exam grade without the final two questions of the exam, which the student had answered beyond the allotted time.

Report to the Bar? Yes.

Fall 2019

Allegation: Complaint alleged that the student received help from a third-party while completing the Journal Write-On Competition, which explicitly prohibits outside help. The student's submission had "tracked" changes and comments in the margin.

Result: The student waived their right to a hearing. Finding of Honor Code Violation by the Sanctions Committee. Student received a written reprimand, could not participate on any executive board for the school year, and had to disclose the matter to any professor seeking to employ the student as a law scholar, teaching assistant, or research assistant.

Report to the Bar? Yes.

Spring 2020

Allegation: Complaint alleged that student worked on take-home exam with another student. The exam instructions expressly prohibited students from discussing the exam with other law students. The respondent's exam had notations that suggested that the student had received feedback on their exam.

Result: Matter was investigated and considered by the Preliminary Review Panel but was dismissed for insufficient evidence.

Report to the Bar? No.

Fall 2020

Allegation: Complaint alleged that student's answer to their take-home final exam had been copied from a commercial Internet source. The exam instructions explicitly prohibit such help.

Result: The student waived their right to a hearing. Finding of Honor Code Violation by the Sanctions Committee. Student received a written reprimand and did not receive credit for the final exam.

Report to the Bar? Yes.

UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE SCHOOL OF LAW HONOR BOARD SELECTED EXAMPLES OF HONOR CODE CASES

MISREPRESENTATION

Fall 2019

Allegation: Complaint alleged the student misrepresented their attendance for a class. The student had missed the previous class, but still signed in on the previous block, as if to misrepresent past attendance. A review of the Panopto showed that the student had in fact missed the previous class.

Result: The student waived their right to a hearing, and there was a finding of an Honor Code violation. The student was sanctioned with a written reprimand.

Report to the Bar? Yes.

Spring 2020

Allegation: Complaint alleged the student misrepresented their attendance in a Zoom class. When the teacher called on the student, there was no response and the student's video was off.

Result: Matter was investigated and considered by the Preliminary Review Panel but was dismissed for insufficient evidence.

Report to the Bar? No.

DISHONESTY / ALTERING DOCUMENTS

Summer 2009

Allegation: Complaint alleged that student fabricated an excuse for missing a scheduled academic commitment for a Mediation Skills class and altered the date on a public record to support the excuse.

Result: Finding of Honor Code Violation. Student received XF in course (failure as a result of Honor Code violation) and student was prohibited from participating in clinic without disclosure of violation

Report to the Bar? Yes.

Spring 2012

Allegation: Complaint alleged that student submitted a resume and UB Law transcript to a professor, in support of a letter of recommendation for a post-graduate application, both of which contained material alterations, including but not limited to an altered GPA on the resume and inflated grades and grade points on the transcript.

Result: Finding of Violation after an Honor Board hearing. Student admitted to altering the documents. Sanctions imposed by Hearing committee: immediate withdrawal from spring classes (WA) and two-year suspension.

Report to the Bar? Yes.