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From: McCue, Kevin <K_McCue@acs.org>
Sent: Friday, May 10, 2024 1:06 PM
To: Division
Subject: Updated Volunteer and Participant Code of Conduct Policy

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Dear Division Leadership,

I ask you share this information with members of your Division for their awareness. If you have any questions, or receive questions from any members of your group, please send them to VolunteerPolicy@acs.org.

The Volunteer/National Meeting Attendee Conduct Policy was adopted in 2013. In December 2023, the ACS Board of Directors approved an updated version and renamed it the [Volunteer and Participant Code of Conduct Policy](#). It took effect on May 1.

This updated policy unifies multiple policies that governed attendees at the spring and fall meetings, Local Section and Regional meetings, and other events hosted by units of the Society. This single, unified policy outlines ACS's expectations for all ACS members, volunteers, and participants at ACS-hosted events, in person and virtual, which includes meetings, seminars, symposia, workshops, or other gatherings hosted wholly or in part by ACS or its units.

Things that largely didn't change: Participants are expected to support ACS's mission and vision, and the definitions of professionalism, non-discrimination, harassment, and illegal activity.

New items include language on non-disclosure of proprietary, confidential, or personally identifiable information; the recording policy; disclosure of conflicts of interest; background checks for events involving minors; and compliance with anti-trust laws. Also, details about how to report violations, procedures ACS will use to investigate violations, disciplinary action, and non-retaliation policies are included. There will be a separate communication in the coming months about the background checks, described in Section 10, which will be required only for ACS events involving minors. Details of this Youth Protection Policy, when, how, and to whom it applies, as well as how the required checks can be conducted efficiently will be announced soon.

On the [updated policy webpage are FAQs](#), but if you have questions that aren't addressed, please send an email to VolunteerPolicy@acs.org.

Sincerely,
Kevin

Kevin McCue, Ph.D.
ACS Divisions
Scientific Advancement Division
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