Universidad Alberto Hurtado

 Facultad de Derecho

**English I - Law**

**DOSSIER**

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**First Semester - 2025**

**MEETING SOMEONE ELSE**

1. Good morning, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Luis Gutierrez and it is nice to meet you. I come from near Rancagua. I live in a small village that is close to the city of Rancagua. I am 20 years old. I am studying history at university and work in a shop at the weekends. I have one brother and one sister. They are both older than me. My sister is 26 years old and my brother is 22 years old. They have both graduated from university and work in Pichilemu.

2. Hi, my name is Lucia Pla and it is great to meet you all. I am really excited to see so many people. I am 24 years old and am an only child. I come from Puente Alto, which is in the south of Santiago and a long way away from here, about an hour by metro. My mother is a teacher and my father works in an office. I finished a degree in Marketing last year and am unemployed at the moment. I want to move out of Santiago to find work.

3. Hello, it is nice to see you all. I’m Eliana. I come from Recoleta and it is great to be here to meet you all at Alberto Hurtado. I am 42 years old. I am married to my wife, Lía, and have two children. One son named Andrew who is 18 years old and one daughter who is 16 years old and called Tracy. I work in a supermarket and my wife is a psychologist. My son wants to study computing at university while my daughter wants to become a singer.

4. Good morning. It is A pleasure to meet you. Please let me introduce myself to you. I am Rodrigo and I come from Venezuela. My home town is Caracas, the capital city. I am 19 years old and have come to Chile to study. I will stay here for 4 or 5 years. I want to learn a lot. My family is big. I have 3 brothers and 1 sister. I am the oldest and my sister, the youngest, is 11 years old. My father works as a cook and my mother is a salesperson at the shopping mall. I want to study so I can get a good job. I do not work as I spend all my time studying.

**WHAT IS A LAWYER?**

A lawyer is a person who is trained and has permission to help with legal problems. They can work in court to support or defend someone, and they also give advice about the law.

Lawyers use the law to help people with their cases. They talk to their clients, check documents, and prepare papers for court. In court, they show evidence, ask questions to witnesses, and explain the law. If they lose a case, they can ask for a new trial.

Sometimes, lawyers solve problems without going to court. They help people agree by talking and finding a solution. Lawyers also help with legal papers, like wills, contracts, and business rules.

Lawyers have different responsibilities. They must be fair to their clients, help the justice system, respect their community, and follow the rules of their job. If these duties do not agree, they follow professional standards to make the best decision.

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/lawyer>

**TYPES OF LAWYERS**

### **Types of Lawyers**

The law is a big and complicated subject. Many lawyers focus on one special part of the law. Because of this, there are many kinds of lawyers. No matter what legal problem you have, there is probably a lawyer who can help you. It is important to find the right lawyer for your situation. What kinds of lawyers are there? This text will talk about lawyers who help with common legal problems.

#### **Bankruptcy Lawyer**

If you have money problems and cannot pay your debts, you may need to think about bankruptcy. A bankruptcy lawyer can help you understand if you can declare bankruptcy and what type is best for you. They can also explain other ways to solve money problems.

#### **Employment Lawyer**

If you are a company with an employee problem, or a worker with a problem at your job, an employment lawyer can help. They give advice about legal issues at work.

#### **Corporate Lawyer**

If you own a business, you may need a corporate lawyer. This lawyer helps with starting a company, following company laws, and other business rules.

#### **Immigration Lawyer**

If you have problems with visas, citizenship, asylum, or green cards, an immigration lawyer can help. They know all about immigration laws.

#### **Criminal Lawyer**

If you or someone in your family is arrested or charged with a crime, you need a criminal lawyer. This lawyer knows about arrests, trials, and court rules.

#### **Tax Lawyer**

Tax laws are difficult, and problems with the tax office can be stressful. A tax lawyer understands tax laws and can help solve tax problems.

#### **Family Lawyer**

A family lawyer helps with marriage and family problems. This includes divorce, child custody, and support for children or a former husband or wife.

#### **Constitutional Lawyer**

A constitutional lawyer studies the country’s main laws and rules. They help people and the government understand these laws.

**WHERE COULD A LAWYER WORK?**

Lawyers can work in many places. They can work in law firms, private businesses, government, courts, and schools.

**Working in Law Firms**

Many new lawyers work in law firms. A law firm is a place where lawyers help people or businesses with legal problems. Every day, lawyers in law firms work on different cases for different clients. Law firms can be big or small. Some work in many areas of law, such as family law, business law, or criminal law. Others focus only on one or two areas.

**Working in Private Business**

Some lawyers work for private companies. These lawyers are called in-house counsel. They only work for one company. Their job is to give legal advice, write and check contracts, and help the company avoid legal problems.

New lawyers do not usually start in these jobs. Companies prefer lawyers with experience.

**Working in Government**

Lawyers can work for the government at different levels. They can work as:

* Prosecutors – They work for the government and try to prove that someone has broken the law.
* Public defenders – They help people who cannot pay for a lawyer.
* Other government lawyers – They help write and enforce laws and rules.
* Government lawyers also work on cases where the government is involved.

**Working in the Courts**

Some new lawyers work as clerks for judges. A clerk helps the judge by researching laws, writing reports, and preparing for court cases. Clerk jobs usually last one or two years.

Very few lawyers become judges. Judges are usually chosen after many years of legal work. Some are elected, and others are appointed.

**Working in Schools**

Some lawyers work in universities. They teach law, write books, and help students. To become a law professor, you usually need to work as a lawyer first. Some law teachers also train students in practical legal skills.

**SKILLS OF A LAWYER**

To be a good lawyer, you need certain skills. Here are some of the most important ones:

* **Be curious**. Always ask questions and look for more information. For example, if a client tells you they were in a car accident, ask them questions like "What time was the accident?" and "Where did it happen?" to get all the details.
* **Solve problems**. People come to lawyers with problems, so you need to be able to find solutions. For example, if a client is being sued, you need to find a way to help them win the case.
* **Read carefully**. Lawyers have to read a lot of documents, so it's important to be able to understand them. For example, you might need to read a contract to make sure it's fair for your client.
* **Write well**. Lawyers have to write clearly and correctly. This is important for things like legal letters and court documents.
* **Speak well**. Lawyers need to be able to talk to all sorts of people, from judges to clients. You need to be able to explain things clearly and persuasively.
* **Do your research**. Lawyers need to be able to find information quickly and accurately. This might involve looking up laws or interviewing witnesses.

<https://www.lawyeredu.org/lawyer-skills.html>

 **FIVE TRAITS OF GREAT LAWYERS.**

What makes a lawyer great? Is it being smart? Is it talking to people well? Is it writing well? Yes, those things are important. But the most important things might surprise you.

Here are five things that can make a lawyer – or any person – great. If you work on these things, you can understand problems better and find better answers.

**Caring About Others**

Some lawyers work on cases that are not "emotional." But caring about others is important for all lawyers. A lawyer who cares about others tries to understand how other people feel. They accept other people's ideas, even when they don't agree.

When you care about others, you can understand your clients and their problems better. You can also understand the other side. This helps you find the best answers for your clients.

**Listening Well**

Good communication is very important for lawyers. Listening is one of the most important parts of communication. Of course, what we say and how we say it are also important. But we can only say the right things if we listen first.

Listen to your clients. Listen to the other side, your coworkers, and the judges. Lawyers need to learn a lot of information. Then, they need to think about it carefully and give good advice to their clients. It starts with listening.

**Strong, Not Mean**

Strong lawyers share their ideas and make sure they are heard. But they are also nice to other people. Mean lawyers ignore other people's ideas.

Lawyers who are too mean cannot understand the other side. This makes it hard to solve problems. Being mean also hurts relationships. It makes it hard to agree on anything.

**Being Creative**

Lawyers need to be creative to find the best answers for their clients. Every case is different. Every client is different. Lawyers need to find new and different solutions. The best way to find new solutions is to care about others and listen to them. This helps you understand the problems and what everyone needs.

**Never Giving Up**

Success comes from never giving up. We need to keep working and keep trying. We need to take breaks when things are not working. Then, we come back ready to "fight," talk, or do whatever we need to do.

**WHAT IS ETHICS?**

Ethics are principles and values, which together with rules of conduct and laws, regulate a profession, such as the legal profession. Ethical standards in legal ethics include:

* Independence, honesty and integrity.
* The lawyer and client relationship.
* The lawyer as an advocate
* A lawyer’s duties to persons other than a client.
* A lawyer’s duties to other lawyers.

Professional Ethics is a code of conduct necessary for maintaining the dignity of the profession. It is a written code of conduct for lawyers. It is a set of rules which determine the professional conduct of a lawyer's duty to the court, the client, the opponent, and their colleagues.

**Lawyer’s duty to the Court.**

1. An advocate should present his case with dignity and self-respect.

2. An advocate should maintain a respectful attitude towards the courts.

3. An advocate should not influence the decision of the court by an illegal or improper means.

4. An advocate should appear in proper dress in the court.

**Lawyer’s duty to the Client.**

1. An advocate's behaviour towards his client should be kind and polite.

2. An advocate should never manipulate a client.

3. An advocate should try his best to get justice for his client.

4. It is the duty of an advocate fearlessly to uphold the interests of his client by all the fair and honourable means.

5. An advocate should not come close with the opposite party.

6. An advocate should not give any improper advice to his client that will affect negatively.

9. An advocate should keep accounts of the clients’ money entrusted to him.

10. An advocate should not disclose any weaknesses of his client and should not reveal any material or document to the opposite party.

11. An advocate should not accept any bribe, gifts, and fees from the opposition party.

**Lawyer’s duty to the Opponent.**

1. An advocate should not negotiate with the opponent party without the permission of who he represents.

2. An advocate should do his best to carry out all legitimate promises made to the opposite party.

3. An advocate should be fair to his opponent.

4. An advocate should give due importance to his opponent Advocate and never mislead the facts of the case to the opponent Advocate.

**Lawyer’s duty to Colleagues.**

1. An advocate cannot appear in a case where a memo is filed with the name of another advocate. If he has the consent of that advocate, then he can appear.

2. An advocate sign-board or name-plate should be of reasonable size.

3. An advocate should not promote unauthorised practice.

Retrieved from: <https://www.lawjure.com/professional-ethics-for-lawyers/>

**ROLE OF LAWYERS.**

Lawyers help people with many legal things, not only fights in court. It is good to ask a lawyer before a problem becomes a fight.

Lawyers can help you when you buy or sell a house or a shop, make a will, or share things after someone dies. They can also help with contracts, or when people break up or get divorced. And they can help you if you have problems with the police.

Lawyers will look at your problem and tell you what the law says. They will tell you what you can do. They will tell you if something is safe or risky. They can talk to the other side and try to find an answer. For example, they can try to stop criminal charges or solve the case without going to court. In family cases, they can help people make an agreement so they don’t have to go to court.

When lawyers go to court for their clients, they help their client.. They show proof to the court and ask questions to the other side's proof and people. They tell the judge what their side is and argue for it.

“A lawyer must give the client their best opinion, based on what they know about the facts and the law.

The advice must be clear and honest, and tell the client what the lawyer thinks about the case.”

Retrieved from: <https://www.plea.org/courts-legal-system/lawyers-1/role-of-lawyers>

 **A LAWYER PROFILE IN CHILE: A UAH LAWYER.**

Someone with a Law degree from Alberto Hurtado University is well-trained in law, both in theory and practice. They can solve legal problems in different work areas. They understand the challenges of the legal profession and use their knowledge thoughtfully. When things change, they learn new things to deal with new situations. In their work, they promote fairness and follow ethical principles. The skills of a fresh Law graduate are the following:

1. They can use basic legal principles and rules in their work, for problems that need theoretical and practical solutions.
2. They can communicate well in their job, in academic settings, and in public discussions. They solve legal problems by talking and arguing, writing legal documents and making speeches, using proper legal language, and defending their points of view.
3. They can handle the tasks of a lawyer in court and when giving legal advice, to properly defend their clients' interests.
4. They can assess their own work and consider different ways to solve legal problems fairly.
5. They can critically assess changes in the legal system in Chile and around the world.
6. They include social justice as part of their professional goals, to strengthen legal institutions and promote peaceful society, and they act according to professional ethics.