

## **I. Definitions**

**Inquiries** are defined as any occasion in which a member contacts the office of ethics to obtain clarity about any issue pertaining to the ACA Code of Ethics.

**Complaints** are defined as any occasion in which either a member or consumer contacts the office of ethics and expresses a desire to formally file a grievance against a counselor who is suspected of having violated one or more portions of the code of ethics.

**Sanctions** are defined as the penalties applied to any member who is found guilty of having violated one or more portions of the code of ethics. The penalties may include suspension or revocation of one's membership.

## **II. Inquiries**

The number of informal inquiries is tallied, but the tallies are not individually processed, documented and archived in the same manner as the formal inquiries. Therefore, this data should be regarded as a close approximation of the number of informal inquiries received during a calendar year.

### **Approximate number of total inquiries FY '12 : (July 2011—June 2012)**

6,558

#### **Nature of the inquiries:**

Confidentiality issues: 42%

Responsibility (including Duty-to-Warn): 21%

Supervision: 4%

Licensure: 22%

Other: 11%

## **III. Complaint Tally FY '12: (July 2011—June 2012)**

# of Complaints: 6

# Accepted for Adjudication: 1

(Remaining complaints either involved non-members or did not meet standards for adjudication)

# Pending submission to Ethics Committee for Acceptance: 0

# Currently before the Committee: 0

# of cases in which Accused found guilty of ethical violations: 0

## **IV. Sanctions imposed**

No sanctions were imposed during the time period in question.

## **V. Trends**

There has been a surge in the number of inquiries regarding the competency and efficacy of counselors working in the capacity of custodial evaluators. While the majority of the inquiries have been received from members of the public seeking clarity on a personal experience, there has also been an increase in the number of professional members attempting to ensure that their approach is ethically sound.