

MPCA Code of Ethics

I. Overview/Preamble

As Clergy, we have been called to serve our communities in a variety of ways: as teachers, mentors, counselors, officiants, ritualists, healers, writers, activists, artisans, and consultants. In doing so, we see value in following standards of practice that support us regarding professionalism and accountability. We seek to celebrate and share spiritual diversity, with honor, respect, freedom, healthy boundaries, and safety for all.

II. Responsibilities to the organization

- To uphold MPCA's mission regarding support of fellow Clergy
- To seek ongoing community and educational opportunities
- To seek support and consultation when needed
- To conduct oneself with dignity, transparency, and honor
- To uphold MPCA's ethical standards of practice

III. Responsibilities to the community

- To support the celebration of our unique beliefs and practices
- To provide confidential support
- To offer service in one's area of expertise
- To engage in healthy relationships
- To protect vulnerable children and adults with whom we have contact
- To uphold state laws directly impacting Clergy as Mandated Reporters (Maine statute: *Title 22 Section 4011A*)

- A) Mandated Reporters must adhere to state and federal laws regarding confidentiality.
 - a. Confidentiality is **not** protected when there is reasonable suspicion regarding
 - i. Child abuse, neglect, exploitation, maltreatment
 - ii. Abuse, neglect, exploitation, or maltreatment of an incapacitated adult
 - iii. Risk/Danger to self or others

IV. Responsibilities to the profession

To maintain professionalism, competence, accountability, integrity, respect, and confidentiality.

- a. Clergy will actively seek opportunities which enhance their knowledge and skills
- b. Clergy will be accountable regarding the outcome of their actions
- c. Clergy will respect Nature
- d. Clergy will have self-awareness as to how their belief systems, values, needs, and limits impact their work
- e. Clergy will have respect for others and honor civil, legal, and human rights
- f. Clergy will have due-process regarding ethical complaints
 - a. Ethical violations include:
 - i. Assault, abuse, exploitation, maltreatment of children and adults
 - ii. Fiscal misconduct
 - iii. Failure to follow Mandated Reporting laws
 - iv. Misrepresentation
 - v. Violation of confidentiality
 - vi. Failure to adhere to the MPCA code of ethics