

Ethics checks for law firms - confidentiality

We do not ask the individuals who take part in a survey to identify themselves and we have structured the surveys to allow their law firms to remain anonymous also, if that is their wish. We ask only that firms identify themselves by a secret and self-selected code (known only to the firm) so that we can aggregate the individual responses from members of the firm to generate the results for the firm as a whole. We will not know which law firms have participated voluntarily in an Ethics check unless they choose to tell us.

We will of course know the identities of the incorporated legal practices we ask to complete an Ethics check as a form of compliance audit. We will assign those firms a file number in lieu of a self-selected code and aggregate the individual responses from members of those firms accordingly. We will not ask the individual respondents to identify themselves however and they will remain completely anonymous.

We publish results of our surveys but will not publish any information that identifies or might tend to identify any particular law firm, without the firm's consent, even if we happen to know the firm's identity. Nor will we publish any reports that tend because of a small sample size for example to identify any of the individual respondents.