

# **Practice Standards**

December, 2012

## **Section III, The Attorney-Client Relationship**

### **1. Nature of Representation:**

**Goal: The paramount obligation of counsel is to provide quality representation and diligent advocacy to the client at all stages of the representation.**

A. To provide quality representation and diligent advocacy, counsel must preserve, protect, and promote the client's rights and interests, and be loyal to the client.

B. Public defenders, contract counsel, shall provide services to all clients in a professional, skilled manner consistent with the Montana Rules of Professional Conduct, case law, applicable court rules defining the duties of counsel and the rights of their clients, and these Standards.