When did you first notice some engineers had begun to exclude serious and personal concerns for the health, safety and welfare of the public depending on whether or not the perpetrators had a P.E. license in a specific state, or had a formal *“Code of Ethics?”*

Now, you read of folks in a city, Flint, MI, who have been, and are continuing to be poisoned due to, at the very least, drastically poor decisions to switch their public’s drinking water source and water conveyance piping system for their public’s water supply *“to save money.”*

You may do the ‘homework research’ to learn of the horrific outcomes many of the citizens of Flint, MI., suffered while their elected, appointed, and contracted representatives continued to offer assurances that *“All is well.”*

* **Classical Ethics versus Morals[[1]](#footnote-1)**



* **Some legal-like concerns of colleagues[[2]](#footnote-2)*:***

*“Yes, we have duties to the public, but they are more limited and nuanced.”*

*“The* (ASCE Ethics) *code should not allow ambiguities.”*

*“Your ethical responsibility to The World is ever-present. It is present when you were born, and it only grows as you mature.”*

*“As engineers, we have ultimate responsibility to the public, which are not always our clients.”*

*“When all things are in balance, we have to hold the public interests with respect to health and safety first, our clients’ interests second, and our interests last.”*

1. Picture Clip Source: <https://www.britannica.com/story/whats-the-difference-between-morality-and-ethics> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Partial quotes from forum contributors. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)