Outline: Writing Letters and Offering Opinions

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I. Introduction/workshop overview
II. Common circumstances encountered by therapists
III. A request for a letter is often a request for the therapist's professional opinion.
IV. Writing a letter is not a duty.
V. Questions to consider before writing a letter for a client/patient
VI. Issues involving scope of competence
    I. §4882(s) Bus. & Prof. Scope of Competence
    II. §1845 CCR Unprofessional Conduct
    III. §5.11 Code of Ethics Scope of Competence
VII. Limits of professional opinions
    I. §5.14 Code of Ethics Limits of Prof. Opinions
VIII. Common problems involving court-involved cases
IX. Avoiding problems involving conflicting and/or dual roles
    I. §10.3 Code of Ethics Conflicting Roles
    II. §10.4 Code of Ethics Dual Roles
X. Vignette(s) for discussion (if time allows)