

# Code of Ethics



## Our Code of Ethics

It guides behavior and makes Our Values come to life every day. These ethical guidelines apply to all of us, and remind us that *how* we do our jobs is just as important as *what* we do.

The Code of Ethics brochure also shares:

- Our Values
- A guide to ethical decision making, and
- Information about the Concerns Program

You can find FAQs, policies and related information at [coe.southernco.com](http://coe.southernco.com) or on your mobile device through the Code of Ethics app in the company App Catalog. You can also talk to your supervisor when you need more help.

By working together, we can make Southern Company a great place to work.

### Safety and Health

We work safely, and we watch out for each other. Our goal is for everyone to go home healthy, every day. We do not compromise on safety. We complete required training, and we report and correct unsafe situations.

We keep our workplace safe for the well-being of employees, customers, contractors and the public.

We also keep our workplace and work sites free from violence and prohibit the inappropriate use of alcohol and drugs.

### Our Employees

Our employees make this a great place to work. We work together as a team, and everyone contributes to our success. We recognize and reward performance.

We treat each other with fairness, respect and dignity. We value and encourage different ideas and points of view. Inclusion and diversity are strengths that unlock our full potential.

We are an equal opportunity employer. We do not tolerate inappropriate conduct, intimidation, harassment or discrimination on any basis, including race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression.

### Our Relationships

We are known for the quality and value of our customer service. We tell the truth, keep our promises and deal fairly and ethically with others. Our goal is to establish and maintain relationships built on trust.

This goal guides all our business decisions. It extends to our customers, employees, vendors, contractors, regulators, stockholders and neighbors. We work to preserve the highest standards of integrity and objectivity. We expect our business partners to operate with ethical standards and values similar to our own.



## The Environment

We take our environmental compliance responsibilities seriously. We support environmental stewardship efforts that protect and preserve our natural resources. The communities we serve are also home to our families and we strive to make them better.

## Compliance with Laws and Regulations

Our reputation for doing the right thing is a valuable asset.

We respect and comply with all laws and regulations. We also comply with company policies and the Code of Ethics. We provide training and resources to meet these expectations.

## Financial Integrity

We are prudent with company funds. All business records and accounts will be complete, accurate and based on proper accounting principles. The records will be maintained as required by law and company policies. Any attempt to conceal, omit or make false entries in the records will not be tolerated.

We maintain appropriate internal controls to prevent and detect fraud. We will make full, fair, correct and timely disclosures in financial reports and other public communications.

## Conflict of Interest

We avoid conflicts of interest. Our goal is to avoid even the appearance of a conflict between our work and personal interests.

Company resources are for business purposes and company-approved activities. We do not use our position, company resources or information for personal benefit. We do not compete with the company using personal or outside businesses. Any potential conflicts of interest must be disclosed promptly to management.

## Gifts and Entertainment

We do not approve, accept or offer gifts, entertainment, or other favors unless they are a part of a reasonable business relationship. We use good judgment in offering hospitality to others to help preserve our reputation and that of our business partners. All gifts or entertainment given or accepted must be in compliance with all applicable laws and company policy.

## Competitive Practices

We compete fairly, and vigorously, on the basis of price, superior service and value. We do not restrain trade, competition, prices, terms or markets.

We market, advertise and collect market data, fairly and honestly.

## Confidential Information

We respect and protect the confidential information of our company, customers, employees, vendors and partners. We do not use confidential information in ways that conflict with laws, regulations or contracts.

We comply with copyright, patent and trademark rights.



## Political Activities

We value and encourage citizenship. Employees have the freedom to choose whether or not to support political candidates, parties or positions, or to engage in political activities. The company will not tolerate pressuring employees to participate in political activities. Company resources will not be used to support political candidates, parties or committees unless permitted by law and company policy, and when approved in advance by executive management.

We do not offer or provide gifts or entertainment of any type, including meals and transportation, to any government employee or public official in the United States or internationally unless doing so is appropriate and legal. We never offer bribes or kickbacks.

Federal and state rules regarding gifts and entertainment for public officials and government employees can vary widely. This is also true when dealing with international businesses.

## Duty to Act

All employees have a duty to act. We must promptly report any suspected violation of this Code, company policies or any applicable laws or regulations.

There are many ways employees can report issues – even anonymously. We investigate concerns and take appropriate action. Employees are expected to cooperate in investigations. The company does not tolerate retaliation in any form, against anyone who fulfills their duty to act.

Issues about questionable accounting practices, violations of internal accounting controls or auditing matters may be reported directly to the Southern Company Audit Committee.

## Conclusion

Ethics means more than just obeying laws and following policies. It means taking personal responsibility to speak out when we see a possible violation of the Code.

Our Values and Code of Ethics challenge us to inspire and help others to act ethically. We should make the most of every opportunity to model the values and behavior that make this a great place to work.

*This Code of Ethics applies to all employees, officers and board members of Southern Company, its subsidiaries and affiliates.*

*Annually, all employees are required to certify they received, read and will abide by the Code of Ethics, including their duty to act.*

*No waivers of the provisions of this Code of Ethics may be granted to board members, officers or employees without authorization from the appropriate compliance officer or in certain circumstances the Southern Company Board of Directors. Waivers will be disclosed as required by applicable law, regulation or rule.*

*This Code of Ethics is a statement of policies for individual and business conduct and does not create any contractual right to current or future employment, employee benefits, or other terms and conditions of employment.*



## Ethical decision-making

Talking to your manager and asking the right questions can lead to sound, ethical decisions.

### Do I have all the information I need?

- You cannot make good decisions without the facts. That may mean asking questions rather than making assumptions or asking others for help.

### Does it violate a law, regulation or company policy?

- Ethical conduct means playing by the rules. When in doubt, look up the policy and seek guidance for any legal questions.

### How will this decision impact the company's reputation and my own reputation?

- How would it look in the newspaper? Would you be proud to tell your children or parents? If you're in doubt, it may not be the right decision.

# Concerns Program

Our Values and Code of Ethics call on us to act with honesty, respect, fairness and integrity. But when that doesn't happen, the Concerns Program is a resource to report a wide range of illegal or unethical behaviors. All Southern Company system employees and contractors can use the program.

It's best to speak with your supervisor first, but if that's not possible you can contact the Concerns Program one of several ways – even anonymously.



Call the confidential hotline at 1-800-492-3902



File a concern online at

[www.yourconcernmatters.southerncompany.com](http://www.yourconcernmatters.southerncompany.com)



Mail a letter

Southern Company Concerns Program  
P.O. Box 54384, Atlanta, GA 30308-9998



Send an email to Concerns at [concerns@southernco.com](mailto:concerns@southernco.com)



Contact your company's Concerns Manager directly

Whichever method you choose, your concern will be investigated quickly and objectively, and appropriate corrective action will be taken when necessary. All concerns are treated confidentially and the company does not tolerate retaliation against anyone for filing a concern.

You can find FAQs, policies and related information at [coe.southernco.com](http://coe.southernco.com) or access the mobile-friendly website by visiting the Workspace One Intelligent Hub on your smart device.

# Our Values

Our Values are the tenets that will continue to drive our future success as they guide us in defining who we are and how we operate as a business.

For more than a century, Southern Company has been building the future of energy. We deliver the energy resources and solutions our customers and communities need to drive growth and prosperity.

How we do our work is just as important as what we do. Our uncompromising values are key to our sustained success. They guide our behavior and ensure we put the needs of those we serve at the center of all we do.

At Southern Company, Our Values will guide us to make every decision, every day, in the right way.

## Safety First

We believe the safety of our employees and customers is paramount. We will perform and maintain every job, every day, safely.

## Unquestionable Trust

Honesty, respect, fairness and integrity drive our behavior. We keep our promises, and ethical behavior is our standard.

## Superior Performance

We are dedicated to superior performance throughout our business. We will continue our strong focus on innovative solutions, improving how we run our business and our commitment to environmental stewardship.

## Total Commitment

We are committed to the success of our employees, our customers, our shareholders and our communities. We fully embrace, respect and value our differences and diversity.