

Assignment Three

1) A man threatens another with death after being shortchanged. The complaint is filed to the police, and both are summoned to record a statement. They both confirm the threat to the officer in charge. What actions should be taken? Discuss. (10 marks)

- 1. Formal Recording of Statements** – The officer should document detailed statements from both the complainant (victim) and the accused (perpetrator) to establish the facts.
- 2. Assessment of Threat Severity** – The police should evaluate the immediacy and credibility of the threat to determine if it poses an immediate danger.
- 3. Legal Action Under Penal Code** – In many jurisdictions, death threats constitute a criminal offense (e.g., assault or intimidation). The accused may be charged under relevant laws (e.g., Section 89 of the Penal Code in some countries).
- 4. Mediation or Warning** – If the threat was made in the heat of the moment and poses no immediate danger, the police may issue a formal warning or recommend mediation.
- 5. Restraining Order** – If the victim fears further harm, the police or court may issue a restraining order against the accused.
- 6. Arrest if Necessary** – If the threat is serious and backed by intent (e.g., possession of a weapon), the accused may be arrested pending further investigation.
- 7. Referral to Prosecution** – The case file should be forwarded to the public prosecutor's office for possible legal action.
- 8. Counseling or Conflict Resolution** – If the dispute arises from a misunderstanding, the parties may be advised to resolve it amicably.
- 9. Follow-Up** – Police should monitor the situation to ensure no further threats or violence occur.
- 10. Public Awareness** – The police may educate both parties on legal consequences of threats to prevent future incidents.

2) Codes of conduct developed by professional organizations may not refer just to the behavior of members. A professional is therefore said to be competent if he/she exhibits certain characteristics. Discuss. (10 marks)

- 1. Technical Expertise** – Mastery of relevant knowledge and skills in their field (e.g., IT professionals must stay updated with cybersecurity, programming, etc.).
- 2. Ethical Conduct** – Adherence to professional ethics, such as honesty, integrity, and confidentiality (e.g., not misusing client data).
- 3. Problem-Solving Ability** – Capacity to analyze issues and develop effective solutions.

- 4. Accountability** – Taking responsibility for actions and decisions, including admitting and rectifying mistakes.
- 5. Continuous Learning** – Commitment to professional development through certifications, training, and staying current with industry trends.
- 6. Communication Skills** – Ability to convey ideas clearly to colleagues, clients, and stakeholders.
- 7. Teamwork & Collaboration** – Working effectively with others to achieve organizational goals.
- 8. Professional Judgment** – Making informed decisions that align with best practices and legal standards.
- 9. Public Focus** – Prioritizing the needs and safety of clients or the public (e.g., ensuring software security for users).
- 10. Leadership & Mentorship** – Guiding junior professionals and promoting a positive work culture.