

Ethical Quandary	NSA Phone Call Collection System	US Gov't	Snowden
Public interest			✓
Client And Employer	✓		
Product	✓	✓	✓
Judgment			✓
Management	✓	✓	✓
Profession			✓
Colleagues	✓	✓	
Self			✓

For the grid provided above a check mark is earned in each Ethical Quandary only if the system involved proves no known violations to the related Ethical Quandary. For this issue of “Edward Snowden's release of Top Secret information about National Security Administration security and surveillance practices” the systems of the NSA the Government hiring them and the whistleblower were identified and evaluated. They were to be evaluated against the “Ethical Principles” we were presented with in lecture. The following paragraph is an explanation for each of the awarded checkmarks for each system.

In the issue of Public interest only Snowden was found to be acting in the public interest as both the NSA and the government sponsoring them were illegally spying on the public. In the issue of Client and employer, only the NSA was found to be upholding this ethic as the USA had a duty to act in the best interest of its citizens which it failed to do so as they were the very people it was spying on and Snowden had the duty of acting in the best interest of his government against whom he spoke out about. None of the systems were found to violate the ethic of producing good products. Of the systems only Snowden was found to be acting according to his judgement. Both the NSA and the USA failed as they did not maintain integrity and independence in their professional judgement. None of the systems failed to uphold the ethic of management at least in this particular case. Both the US and the NSA were found to not uphold the ethics of profession as their actions of hiring an agency to spy upon the people and creating a system to do so respectively go against the interests of the public and therefore harm the reputation of the profession. Of the systems Snowden is the only one to fail to uphold the ethics of colleagues. The NSA and the government acted in the interests of other colleagues but Snowden's actions hurt his colleagues and exposed what it was that they were doing. Lastly, Snowden was the only system found to be following the ethics of self as he was promoting an ethical approach to his profession while the US and the NSA were found to be using their profession to do unethical acts against the public interest.