Title: Ethical Obligations And Decision Making In Accounting: Text and Cases
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◆ The first edition was written in the wake of the dot.com bubble and accounting scandals at companies such as Enron and WorldCom. This edition was written to guide accountants past a scandal-filled age. The book is entirely devoted to helping readers cultivate the ethical commitment needed to ensure that their work meets the highest standards of integrity, independence and objectivity.

◆ Chapters of the book include:
- Ethical reasoning
- Accountants' ethical decision process and professional judgment
- Corporate governance and ethical management
- AICPA code of professional conduct
- Audit responsibilities and accounting fraud
- Legal and regulatory obligations in an ethical framework
- Earnings management and the quality of financial reporting
- International financial reporting: ethics and corporate governance considerations
The book begins by investigating the nature and purpose of accounting and follows with a brief study of the nature and use of ethical principles in determining accountants' responsibilities; it examines the ethical imperatives that bind professionals and the specific principles and rules that various accounting codes dictate. Next, the book explores the major types of practices in which accountants engage – auditing, managerial accounting, and tax accounting – and the responsibilities associated with those practices. The new topics are addressed in a section which highlights the debates over the use of fair-value accounting and principles-versus rules-based standards.

Chapters of the book include:
- The nature of accounting and the chief ethical difficulty: True disclosure
- Ethical behavior in accounting: What is ethics?
- Ethical behavior in accounting: Ethical theory
- Accounting as a profession: Characteristics of a profession
- Accounting codes of conduct
- The rules of the code of conduct
- The auditing function
- The ethics of managerial accounting
- The ethics of tax accounting
- Ethics applied to the accounting firm
The professional responsibilities of accountants are broad-based; they must serve clients and user groups whose needs, incentives, and goals may be in conflict. Further, accountants must interpret and apply codes of conduct, accounting and auditing principles, and securities regulations. Compliance with professional guidelines is judgment-based; characteristics of the individual, the culture, and situations affect how these guidelines are interpreted and applied, as well as when they might be violated. Interactions between accountants, regulators, standard setters, and industries also have ethical components. Research into the nature of these interactions, resulting dilemmas, and how and why accountants resolve them, is the focus of this book.

Chapters of the book include:
- "True and fair" as the moral compass of financial reporting
- The focus of professional ethics: ethical professionals or ethical profession?
- Linking virtue to representational faithfulness in making judgments in a principles-based environment
- Ranking North American accounting scholars publishing ethics research: 1986 through 2008
- Publication trends in research on professional responsibility and ethics in accounting and research on accounting ethics, and a database of the articles
- Teaching ethics in the accounting and tax curriculum using Milgram’s agentic shift theory