Question: May a paralegal appear in court and argue a motion on behalf of the client of his (her) employer, assuming that the client understands that a paralegal is not a lawyer and assuming that the lawyer has instructed and briefed the paralegal in preparation for said appearance?

Answer: No.

References: SCR 3.020, 3.700

Note to Reader

This ethics opinion has been formally adopted by the Board of Governors of the Kentucky Bar Association under the provisions of Kentucky Supreme Court Rule 3.530 (or its predecessor rule). The Rule provides that formal opinions are advisory only.