

Ethics & Compliance Cases in Business

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About me:

- Teaching Assistant Professor & Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Business Administration at the Gies College of Business at the University of Illinois
- 2007 JD/MBA from the U of I
- Former corporate & commercial lawyer (happily retired!)
- Teach business law and ethics
- Coach Gies ethics case competition teams
- Native Austinite – talk to me about BBQ



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The plan for today

- I'll give you some scenarios, mostly drawn from case competitions about current business ethics issues
- With your table, come up with a plan of action
- Share with the group
- I'll tell you how my students solved the same problems

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The Amazon HQ2 Case

1. Is there an ethical problem here for Amazon?
2. If so, what can/should be done?

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The Amazon HQ2 Case – Student Solutions

- Develop public criteria for HQ2 selection
- Consider multiple locations instead of one HQ2
- Invest in community housing & social services
- Create educational opportunities for local residents

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The Space Inc. Case

1. Do we have legal concerns?
2. Are there other options?
3. How can we best consider stakeholders? (Clients? Shareholders? Regulators? Employees?)

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The Space Inc. Case – Student Solutions

- Bring in law enforcement
- Shore up the network
- Transparent communication with all stakeholders
- Serious legal risk with offensive approach

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The NOVA Case

1. Is this a worthy whistleblower action?
2. Should you step in with the CEO?

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The NOVA Case – Student Solutions

- This is not binary – engineer around it
- Delay rollout & offer discounts

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Final Thoughts