



*This policy states the USTUR position on involvement in litigatory actions.*

## **The Registries avoid involvement in litigation**

The sensitive nature of the USTUR research which involves volunteer subjects and the need to protect the privacy of registrants and their families, as well as other ethical considerations, dictate special consideration be given to potential litigatory involvement. Except as otherwise required by law or when the Registries may be a party, the Registries avoid involvement in litigation, and take no position in civil litigation matters. This does not preclude any faculty or staff member associated with the Registries from expressing opinions or commenting, provided any such expressions are made as individuals and not as a representative of the University or of the USTUR.

## **Faculty may serve as consultants or expert witnesses in accordance with established policies**

Registries faculty may serve as expert witnesses, consultants, or in other capacities, providing that such activities are in consonance with applicable laws, regulations, and established WSU policies as stated in the Faculty Manual and elsewhere, and with the policies specified in the USTUR Policies and Procedures Manual.

## **Unpublished Registries data shall not be used in litigation**

Except as otherwise legally required, data acquired by the Registries in the normal conduct of their research, including results of scientific work in progress that have not been published in the open literature, shall not be used in litigation, for any consulting or private endeavor, or for enterprise by any member of the Registries faculty or staff, under any circumstances, unless required by law. This in no way is meant to restrict the use of published data, Registries reports, or other publications, since these are freely available to the general public.