

# Code of Ethics

Property Defect Detectives South Africa (PDDSA) promotes a high standard of professionalism, business ethics and inspection procedures. Our Inspectors subscribe to the following Code of Ethics in the business:

## 1. Duty to the Public

1. The **PDDSA Inspector** shall have completed 1,000 fee-paid inspections and/or hours of inspection-related Continuing Education (combined).
2. The **PDDSA Inspector** shall have been in the inspection business for at least three years.
3. The **PDDSA Inspector** will not engage in any practices that could be damaging to the public or that could bring discredit to the home inspection industry.
4. The **PDDSA Inspector** shall be fair, honest, impartial, and act in good faith in dealing with the public.
5. The **PDDSA Inspector** will not discriminate in any business activities on the basis of race, colour, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, gender orientation, or handicap, and shall comply with all federal, state and local laws concerning discrimination.
6. The **PDDSA Inspector** shall be truthful regarding his/her services and qualifications.
7. The **PDDSA Inspector** will have no conflict of interest with the client, nor will the **PDDSA Inspector** accept or offer any third-party commissions, rebates, profits, or other benefits.
8. The **PDDSA Inspector** will not communicate any information about an inspection to anyone except the client without the client's prior written consent, except where it may affect the safety of others or violate a rule or statute.
9. The **PDDSA Inspector** shall always act in the interests of the client, unless doing so violates a law or statute.
10. The **PDDSA Inspector** shall use a written contract that specifies the services to be performed, the limitations of services, and fees.
11. The **PDDSA Inspector** shall comply with all government rules and licensing requirements of the jurisdiction where s/he conducts business.
12. The **PDDSA Inspector** shall not perform or offer to perform, for an additional fee, any repairs, or associated services to a structure for which the **PDDSA Inspector** or **PDDSA Inspector's**® company has prepared a home inspection report. This provision shall not include services to components and/or systems which are not included in his/her Standards of Practice.
13. The **PDDSA Inspector** shall submit to periodic criminal background checks and relinquish his/her **PDDSA Inspector** professional designation if ever convicted of a violent crime or felony.

## 2. Duty to the Profession and to Other Property Inspectors

1. The **PDDSA Inspector** will strive to improve the Inspection Industry by sharing his/her lessons and/or experiences for the benefit of all. This does not preclude the **PDDSA Inspector** from copyrighting or marketing his/her expertise to other inspectors or to the public in any manner permitted by law.
2. The **PDDSA Inspector** shall assist in disseminating and publicizing the benefits of hiring **PDDSA Inspectors**.
3. The **PDDSA Inspector** will not engage in any act or practice that could be deemed damaging, seditious, or destructive to fellow **Property Inspectors**.
4. The **PDDSA Inspector** will dress professionally when acting in the capacity of his/her profession.

