CS 30700: Software Engineering
Homework #1
Due on January 23, 2017 at 11:59pm
Problem 1

Locate and read the Full Version of the “Software Engineering Code of Ethics and Professional Practice.” Then, consider the following scenario:

Carmen Mark is a consultant. She advises small businesses with regard to their computer requirements. Carmen looks at a company’s operations, evaluating their automation needs, and recommends hardware and software to meet those needs.

Carmen was recently hired by a small hospital wanting to upgrade their patient records and accounting system. The hospital had already asked for bids for upgrading the system. Carmen was hired to look at the proposals that they had received and to recommend the “best” one.

Carmen carefully analyzed the proposals, carefully considering the systems proposed, the experience of the company making the bid, and the costs and benefits of each proposal. She concluded that ImagiCorp had proposed the best system for the hospital, and she recommended that the hospital purchase and implement the ImagiCorp system. She provided a detailed explanation for why she thought that ImagiCorp’s offering would be the best.

Carmen did not reveal that she is a silent partner (a co-owner) in ImagiCorp.

Was Carmen’s behavior unethical? Assume that Carmen evaluated the bids in good faith, and sincerely believed that ImagiCorp had given the best bid. Identify all relevant clauses in the Software Engineering Code of Ethics and Professional Practice. List them (e.g., 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, etc.). Provide one to two sentences for each describing why Carmen’s actions fail to meet the established standard. If you believe that Carmen’s behavior does not violate the Code, explain in a paragraph why.

Problem 2

Research the “Volkswagen emissions scandal.” Read at least five unique sources. List them. Consider the situation from an engineer’s perspective, a manager’s perspective, a user’s perspective, and the public’s perspective. Apply the Software Engineering Code of Ethics and Professional Practice. List the relevant clauses. Write one to two sentences per clause describing why it is relevant.

Submission

Be concise and to the point. Problem 1 should have one to two paragraphs. Problem 2 should be no more than one page, if that.

A homework assignment will be created on Blackboard. You are expected to submit a document in PDF format. Other formats will result in a reduction in score.