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Emails and Attorney Client Privilege

I highly encourage the use of email to facilitate communication between you and my office. There are some things to keep in mind when doing so:

1. Attorney-Client Privilege only attaches to private communications between the client and the attorney's office. Therefore, maintaining the privacy of the email is essential in maintaining the privilege.
2. If you use your employer's email system to email me, those communications are **not** considered private since your employer has the absolute right to read all email communications made using its email system. No privilege applies to any email to me sent through your employer's system.
3. Similarly, if you access your own email on your employer's network, that is not considered private either. Your employer has the absolute right to view all data that crosses its network. For example, if your personal email is from Google, and you access your email at the Gmail website on your employer's computer, the employer is allowed to read every email you read or write. Obviously, if you do not open the email, the employer cannot read it either, but it is something to be aware of.
4. Number 3, above, applies if you are using your employer's WiFi to access the internet from your smartphone to check your email, as the data is transmitted over the employer's network to your phone. In some situations, this can be worse as your phone may download the entire text of an email **before** you open it, therefore giving your employer access to all such emails.

My advice:

1. Do not access your personal information from an employer's computer.
2. Do not allow your smartphone to access the internet through the employer's WiFi.