In addition to satisfying academic requirements for promotion and/or retention which are established by each respective training program, all members of the house staff are required to conduct themselves in a professional manner and to abide by recognized principles and codes of ethical behavior.

Specifically, the ACGME defines professionalism as:

A commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities and adherence to ethical behavior. The expectation is that resident physicians will demonstrate

1) Compassion, integrity and respect for others.
2) Responsibility to patient needs that supersedes self-interest
3) Respect for patient privacy and autonomy
4) Accountability to patients, society, and the profession
5) Sensitivity responsiveness to a diverse patient population, including but not limited to diversity in gender, age, culture, race, religion, disabilities, and sexual orientation.

You should be aware that you became members of the medical staff of this hospital in a resident status and the By-Laws of the Medical Staff speak to issues of ethical behavior. The Graduate Medical Education Committee's Policy on Reappointment and Disciplinary Actions provide the mechanism for resident dismissal for non-professional conduct which incorporates appropriate due process.

Finally, you should be aware that the North Carolina Board of Medical Examiners is empowered by State Statute to revoke, suspend, annul or deny licensure and is also empowered in the instance of allegation of substance abuse to require physicians licensed by it to submit to mental and physical examinations to obtain any evidentiary data necessary to investigate such allegation.