



PROFESSIONAL CREED

of the

AMERICAN INNS OF COURT

WHEREAS, the Rule of Law is essential to preserving and protecting the rights and liberties of a free people; and

WHEREAS, throughout history, lawyers and judges *us* have preserved, protected and defended the Rule of Law in order to ensure justice for all; and

WHEREAS, preservation and promulgation of the *us* highest standards of excellence in professionalism, ethics, civility and legal skills are essential to achieving justice under the Rule of Law;

NOW THEREFORE, as a member of an American Inn of Court, I hereby adopt this professional creed with a pledge to honor its principles and practices:

I will treat the practice of law as a learned profession and will uphold the standards of the profession with dignity, *x* civility and courtesy.

I will value my integrity above all. My word is my bond.

I will develop my practice with dignity and will be mindful in my communications with the public that what is constitutionally permissible may not be professionally appropriate.

I will serve as an officer of the court, encouraging respect for the law in all that I do and avoiding abuse or misuse of the law, its procedures, its participants and its *us* processes.

I will represent the interests of my client with vigor and will seek the most expeditious and least costly solutions to problems, resolving disputes through negotiation whenever possible.

I will work continuously to attain the highest level of *us* knowledge and skill in the areas of the law in which I practice.

I will contribute time and resources to public service, *us* charitable activities and *pro bono* work.

I will work to make the legal system more accessible, responsive and effective.

I will honor the requirements, the spirit and the intent of the applicable rules or codes of professional conduct for my jurisdiction, and will encourage others to do the same.

