

## States with Civility language in their Attorney Oaths (Currently recognized on ABOTA map)

### Alaska

*I do affirm:*

*I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Alaska;*

*I will adhere to the Rules of Professional Conduct in my dealings with clients, judicial officers, attorneys, and all other persons;*

*I will maintain the respect due to courts of justice and judicial officers;*

*I will not counsel or maintain any proceedings that I believe are taken in bad faith or any defense that I do not believe is honestly debatable under the law of the land;*

*I will be truthful and honorable in the causes entrusted to me, and will never seek to mislead the judge or jury by an artifice or false statement of fact or law;*

*I will maintain the confidences and preserve inviolate the secrets of my client, and will not accept compensation in connection with my client's business except from my client or with my client's knowledge or approval;*

*I will be candid, fair, and courteous before the court and with other attorneys, and will advance no fact prejudicial to the honor or reputation of a party or witness unless I am required to do so in order to obtain justice for my client;*

*I will uphold the honor and maintain the dignity of the profession, and will strive to improve both the law and administrative justice.*

### Arizona

*I, (state your name), do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the constitution and the laws of the United States and the State of Arizona;*

*I will treat the courts of justice and judicial officers with due respect;*

*I will not counsel or maintain any action, proceeding, or defense that lacks a reasonable basis in fact or law;*

*I will be honest in my dealings with others and not make false or misleading statements of fact or law;*

*I will fulfill my duty of confidentiality to my client; I will not accept compensation for representing my client from anyone other than my client without my client's knowledge and approval;*

*I will avoid engaging in unprofessional conduct; I will not advance any fact prejudicial to the honor or reputation of a party or witness, unless required by my duties to my client or the tribunal;*

*I will support the fair administration on justice, professionalism among lawyers, and legal representation for those unable to afford counsel;*

*I will at all time faithfully and diligently adhere to the rules of professional responsibility and A Lawyer's Creed of Professionalism of the State Bar of Arizona.*

## **Arkansas**

*I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Arkansas, and I will faithfully perform the duties of attorney at law. I will maintain the respect and courtesy due to courts of justice, judicial officers, and those who assist them.*

*I will, to the best of my ability, abide by the Arkansas Rules of Professional Conduct and any other standards of ethics proclaimed by the courts, and in doubtful cases I will attempt to abide by the spirit of those ethical rules and precepts of honor and fair play.*

*To opposing parties and their counsel, I pledge fairness, integrity and civility, not only in court, but also in all written and oral communications.*

*I will not reject, from any consideration personal to myself, the cause of the impoverished, the defenseless, or the oppressed.*

*I will endeavor always to advance the cause of justice and to defend and to keep inviolate the rights of all persons whose trust is conferred upon me an attorney at law.*

## **California**

*I solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of an attorney and counselor at law to the best of my knowledge and ability. As an office or the court, I will strive to conduct myself at all times with dignity, courtesy and integrity.*

## Colorado

*I DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR...*

*I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Colorado; I will maintain the respect due to Courts and judicial officers; I will employ only such means as are consistent with truth and honor; I will treat all persons whom I encounter through my practice of law with fairness, courtesy, respect and honesty; I will use my knowledge of the law for the betterment of society and the improvement of the legal system; I will never reject, from any consideration personal to myself, the cause of the defenseless or oppressed; I will at all times faithfully and diligently adhere to the Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct.*

## Delaware

*I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Delaware; that I will behave myself in the office of an attorney within the Court and according to the best of my learning and ability and with all good fidelity, as well to the Court as to the client; that I will use not falsehood, nor delay any person's cause through lucre and malice.*

## Florida

*I do solemnly swear:*

*I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Florida;*

*I will maintain the respect due to courts of justice and judicial officers;*

*I will not counsel or maintain any suit or proceedings which shall appear to me to be unjust, nor any defense except such as I believe to be honestly debatable under the law of the land;*

*I will employ for the purpose of maintaining the causes confided to me such means only as are consistent with truth and honor, and will never seek to mislead the judge or jury by any artifice or false statement of fact or law;*

*I will maintain the confidence and preserve inviolate the secrets of my clients, and will accept no compensation in connection with their business except from them or with their knowledge and approval;*

*To opposing parties and their counsel, I pledge fairness, integrity, and civility, not only in court, but also in all written and oral communications;*

*I will abstain from all offensive personality and advance no fact prejudicial to the honor or reputation of a party or witness, unless required by the justice of the cause with which I am charged;*

*I will never reject, from any consideration personal to myself, the cause of the defenseless or oppressed, or delay anyone's cause for lucre or malice. So help me God.*

## **Hawaii**

*I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution and laws of the State of Hawai'i, and that I will at all times conduct myself in accordance with the Hawai'i Rules of Professional Conduct.*

*As an officer of the courts to which I am admitted to practice, I will conduct myself with dignity and civility towards judicial officers, court staff, and my fellow professionals.*

*I will faithfully discharge my duties as attorney, counselor, and solicitor in the courts of the state to the best of my ability, giving due consideration to the legal needs of those without access to justice.*

## **Iowa**

*I do solemnly swear:*

*I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Iowa;*

*I will maintain the respect due to courts of justice and judicial officers;*

*I will not counsel or maintain any suit or proceeding which shall appear to me to be unjust, nor any defense except the defense of a person charged with a public offense;*

*I will employ for the purpose of maintaining the causes confided to me such means only as are consistent with truth, and will never seek to mislead the judges by any artifice or false statement of fact or law;*

*I will maintain the confidence, and, at any peril to myself, will preserve the secret of my client;*

*I will abstain from all offensive personality, and advance no fact prejudicial to the honor or reputation of a party or witness, unless required by the justice of the cause with which I am charged;*

*I will refuse to encourage either the commencement or continuance of an action proceeding from any motive of passion or interest;*

*I will never reject, from any consideration personal to myself, the cause of the defenseless or oppressed; and*

*I will faithfully discharge the duties of an attorney and counselor at law to the best of my ability and in accordance with the ethics of my profession, So Help Me God.*

## **Louisiana**

*I solemnly swear (or affirm) I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Louisiana;*

*I will maintain the respect due to courts of justice and judicial officers;*

*I will not counsel or maintain any suit or proceeding which shall appear to me to be unjust nor any defense except such as I believe to be honestly debatable under the law of the land;*

*I will employ for the purpose of maintaining the causes confided to me such means only as are consistent with truth and honor and will never seek to mislead the judge or jury by any artifice or false statement of fact or law;*

*I will maintain the confidence and preserve inviolate the secrets of my client and will accept no compensation in connection with a client's business except from the client or with the client's knowledge and approval;*

*To opposing parties and their counsel, I pledge fairness, integrity, and civility, not only in court, but also in all written and oral communications;*

*I will abstain from all offensive personality and advance no fact prejudicial to the honor or reputation of a party or witness unless required by the justice of the cause with which I am charged;*

*I will never reject from any consideration personal to myself the cause of defenseless or oppressed or delay any person's cause for lucre or malice.*

*So help me God.*

## Michigan

*I do solemnly swear (or affirm):*

*I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Michigan;*

*I will maintain the respect due to courts of justice and judicial officers;*

*I will not counsel or maintain any suit or proceeding which shall appear to me to be unjust, nor any defense except such as I believe to be honestly debatable under the law of the land;*

*I will employ for the purpose of maintaining the causes confided to me such means only as are consistent with truth and honor, and will never seek to mislead the judge or jury by any artifice or false statement of fact or law;*

*I will maintain the confidence and preserve inviolate the secrets of my client, and will accept no compensation in connection with my client's business except with my client's knowledge and approval;*

*I will abstain from all offensive personality, and advance no fact prejudicial to the honor or reputation of a party or witness, unless required by the justice of the cause with which I am charged;*

*I will never reject, from any consideration personal to myself, the cause of the defenseless or oppressed, or delay any cause for lucre or malice;*

*I will in all other respects conduct myself personally and professionally in conformity with the high standards of conduct imposed upon members of the bar as conditions for the privilege to practice law in this State.*

## Minnesota

*I, (insert name) do swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and that of the State of Minnesota, and will conduct myself as an attorney and counselor at law, in an upright and courteous manner, to the best of my learning and ability, with all good fidelity as well to the court as to a client, and that I will use no falsehood or deceit, nor delay any person's cause for lucre or malice, SO HELP ME GOD.*

## Montana

*I do affirm:*

*I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Montana;*

*I will maintain the respect due to the courts of justice and judicial officers;*

*I will not counsel or maintain any proceedings which shall appear to me to be taken in bad faith or any defense except such as I believe to be honestly debatable under the law of the land;*

*I will employ for the purpose of maintaining the causes confided to me such means only as are consistent with truth and honor, and will never seek to mislead the judge or jury by an artifice or false statement of fact or law;*

*I will maintain the confidence and preserve inviolate the secrets of my client and will accept no compensation in connection with my client's business except from my client or with my clients knowledge or approval;*

*I will be candid, fair, and courteous before the court and with other attorneys, maintain civility toward opposing parties and their counsel not only in court, but also in all written and oral communications, and advance no fact prejudicial to the honor or reputation of the party or witness, unless required by the justice of the cause with which I am charged;*

*I shall faithfully discharge the duties of an attorney and counselor at law with fidelity to the best of my knowledge and ability;*

*I will strive to uphold the honor and to maintain the dignity of the profession to improve not only the law but the administration of justice, so help me God.*

## **Nevada**

*I, (insert name), DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR, OR AFFRIM, THAT:*

*I will support the Constitution and government of the United States and of the State of Nevada;*

*I will maintain the respect due to courts of justice and judicial officers;*

*I will support, abide by and follow the Rules of Professional Conduct as are now or may hereafter be adopted by the Supreme Court;*

*I will conduct myself in a civil and professional manner, whether dealing with client, opposing parties and counsel, judicial officers or the general public, and will promote the administration of justice; and*

*I will faithfully and honestly discharge the duties of an attorney at law to the best of my knowledge and ability.*

## **New Mexico**

*I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Mexico;*

*I will maintain the respect due to courts of justice and judicial officers;*

*I will comply with the Rules of Professional Conduct adopted by the New Mexico Supreme Court;*

*I will not counsel or maintain any suit or proceeding which shall appear to me to be unjust, nor any defense except such as I believe to be honestly debatable under the law of the land;*

*I will employ for the purpose of maintaining the causes confided to me such means only as are consistent with truth and honor, and will never seek to mislead the judge or jury by any artifice or false statement of fact or law;*

*I will maintain the confidence and preserve inviolate the secrets of my clients, and will accept no compensation in connection with their business except from them or with their knowledge and approval;*

*I will maintain civility at all times, abstain from all offensive personality, and advance no fact prejudicial to the honor or reputation of a party or witness unless required by the justice of the cause with which I am charged;*

*I will never reject from any consideration personal to myself the cause of the defenseless or oppressed, or delay any person's cause for lucre or malice.*

## **Ohio**

*I (insert name) hereby (swear or affirm) that I will support the Constitution and the laws of the United States and the Constitution and the laws of Ohio, and I will abide by the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct.*

*In my capacity as an attorney and officer of the Court, I will conduct myself with dignity and civility and show respect toward judges, court staff, clients, fellow professionals, and all other persons.*

*I will honestly, faithfully, and competently discharge the duties of an attorney at law.  
(So help me God.)*

## **Oregon**

*I, (insert name), swear (or affirm);*

*That I will faithfully and honestly conduct myself in the office of an attorney in the courts of the State of Oregon; that I will observe and abide by the Rules of Professional Conduct approved by the Supreme Court of the State of Oregon; and that I will support the Constitution and laws of the United States and of the State of Oregon. To the court, opposing parties and their counsel, I pledge fairness, integrity, and civility, not only in court, but also in all written and oral communications.*

## **South Carolina**

*I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that:*

*I am duly qualified, according to the Constitution of this State, to exercise the duties of the office to which I have been appointed, and that I will, to the best of my ability, discharge those duties and will preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of this State and the United States;*

*I will maintain the respect and courtesy due to the courts of justice, judicial officers, and those who assist them;*

*To my clients, I pledge faithfulness, competence, diligence, good judgement and prompt communication;*

*To opposing parties and their counsel, I pledge fairness, integrity, and civility, not only in court, but also in all written and oral communications;*

*I will not pursue or maintain any suit or proceeding which appears to me to be unjust nor maintain any defenses except those I believe to be honestly debatable under the law of the land, but this obligation shall not prevent me from defending a person charged with a crime;*

*I will employ for the purpose of maintaining the causes confided to me only such means as are consistent with trust and honor and the principles of professionalism, and will*

*never seek to mislead an opposing party, the judge or jury by false statement of fact or law;*

*I will respect and preserve inviolate the confidences of my clients, and will accept no compensation in connection with a client's business except from the client or with the client's knowledge and approval;*

*I will maintain the dignity of the legal system and advance no fact prejudicial to the honor or reputation of a party or witness, unless required by the justice of the cause with which I am charged;*

*I will assist the defenseless or oppressed by ensuring that justice is available to all citizens and will not delay any person's cause for profit or malice;*

*[So help me God.]*

## **Tennessee**

*I, (insert name), do solemnly swear or affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Tennessee. In the practice of my profession, I will conduct myself with honesty, fairness, integrity, and civility to the best of my skill and abilities, so help me God.*

## **Texas**

*I, (insert name), do solemnly swear ... that I will support the Constitutions of the United States, and of this State; that I will honestly demean myself in the practice of law; that I will discharge my duties to my clients to the best of my ability; and I will conduct myself with integrity and civility in dealing and communicating with the court and all parties. So help me God.*

## **Utah**

*"I do solemnly swear that I will support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Utah; that I will discharge the duties of attorney and counselor at law as an officer of the courts of this State with honesty, fidelity, professionalism, and civility; and that I will faithfully observe the Rules of Professional Conduct and the Standards of Professionalism and Civility promulgated by the Supreme Court of the State of Utah."*

## Virginia

*I do solemnly swear or affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and that I will faithfully, honestly, professionally, and courteously demean myself in the practice of law and execute my office of attorney at law to the best of my ability, so help me God.*

## Washington

*I, (insert name), do solemnly declare:*

- 1. I am fully subject to the laws of the State of Washington and the laws of the United States and will abide by the same.*
- 2. I will support the constitution of the State of Washington and the constitution of the United States.*
- 3. I will abide by the Rules of Professional Conduct approved by the Supreme Court of the State of Washington.*
- 4. I will maintain the respect due to the courts of justice and judicial officers.*
- 5. I will not counsel, or maintain any suit, or proceeding, which shall appear to me to be unjust or any defense except as I believe to be honestly debatable under the law, unless it is in defense of a person charged with a public offense. I will employ for the purpose of maintaining the causes confided to me only those means consistent with truth and honor. I will never seek to mislead the judge or jury by any artifice or false statement.*
- 6. I will maintain the confidence and preserve inviolate the secrets of my client, and will accept no compensation in connection with the business of my client unless this compensation is from or with the knowledge and approval of the client or with approval of the court.*
- 7. I will abstain from all offensive personalities, and advance no fact prejudicial to the honor or reputation of a party or witness unless required by the justice of the cause with which I am charged.*
- 8. I will never reject, from an consideration personal to myself, the cause of the defenseless or oppressed, or delay unjustly the cause of any person.*

## West Virginia

*"I do solemnly swear or affirm that: I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of West Virginia; that I will honestly demean myself in the practice of law; that I will conduct myself with integrity, dignity and civility and show respect toward judges, court staff, clients, fellow professionals and all other persons; and to the best of my ability, execute my office of attorney-at-law; so help me God."*