

**RESOLUTION PROPOSED BY THE  
COMMITTEE ON THE PROFESSION  
OF THE LOUISIANA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION**

**WHEREAS**, the LSBA Committee on the Profession (“Committee”) is charged as part of its mission, “to support and encourage lawyers to exercise the highest standards of integrity, ethics and professionalism in their conduct; to examine systemic issues in the legal system arising out of the lawyer’s relationship and duties to his/her clients, other lawyers, the courts, the judicial system and the public good; to provide the impetus and means to positively impact those relationships and duties; to improve access to the legal system; and to improve the quality of life and work/life balance for lawyers”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Committee is comprised of LSBA members from all geographic areas of the state and practice groups;

**WHEREAS**, the Committee believes the Code of Professionalism should be amended;

**WHEREAS**, Amendments have not been made to the Code of Professionalism since January 10, 1992;


**WHEREAS**, a Subcommittee of the Committee on the Profession was appointed to study and make recommended changes to the Committee on the Profession;


**WHEREAS**, the Subcommittee furnished its recommendations to the Committee and after careful consideration, the Committee on the Profession recommended adoption of the aspirational Code of Professionalism as proposed in Exhibit A (Attached).

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the LSBA House of Delegates approve the recommendations of the Committee on the Profession as set forth above.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the LSBA House of Delegates respectfully recommends approval of same by the Louisiana Supreme Court.

Respectfully submitted,  
LSBA Committee on the Profession

  
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Michael E. Holoway, Co-Chair  
Monique M. Edwards, Vice-Chair  
Christy M. Howley, Vice-Chair  
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JANUARY 20, 2018  
BATON ROUGE, LA

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Sharonda R. Williams  
Alan J. Yacoubian  
Honorable Jay C. Zainey

This 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2017.

## Exhibit A

### THE CODE OF PROFESSIONALISM (PROPOSED)

The legal profession is a learned calling. As such, lawyers should act with honesty and integrity and be mindful of our responsibility to the judicial system, the public, our colleagues, and the rule of law. We, as lawyers, should always aspire to the highest ideals of our profession.

- My word is my bond.
- I will conduct myself with honesty, dignity, civility, courtesy and fairness and will not engage in any demeaning or derogatory actions or commentary toward others.
- I will not knowingly make statements of fact or law that are untrue or misleading and I will clearly identify for other counsel changes I have made in documents submitted to me.
- I will be punctual in my communication with clients, other counsel and the court. I will honor scheduled appearances and will cooperate with other counsel in all respects.
- I will allow counsel fair opportunity to respond and will grant reasonable requests for extensions of time.
- I will not abuse or misuse the law, its procedures or the participants in the judicial process.
- I will cooperate with counsel and the court to reduce the cost of litigation and will not file or oppose pleadings, conduct discovery or utilize any course of conduct for the purpose of undue delay or harassment of any other counsel or party.
- I will not engage in personal attacks on other counsel or the court or use the threat of sanctions as a litigation tactic.
- I will support my profession's efforts to enforce its disciplinary rules and will not make unfounded allegations of unethical conduct about other counsel.
- I will work to protect and improve the image of the legal profession in the eyes of the public.
- I will endeavor to improve our system of justice.
- I will use technology, including social media, responsibly. My words and actions, no matter how conveyed, should reflect the professionalism expected of me as a lawyer.
- I will seek opportunities to be of service to the bench and bar and assist those who cannot afford legal help.
- I will be supportive of new members in the profession.
- I will stay informed about changes in the law, communication, and technology which affect the practice of law.



# CODE OF PROFESSIONALISM

**M**y word is my bond. I will never intentionally mislead the court or other counsel. I will not knowingly make statements of fact or law that are untrue.

- ∞ I will clearly identify for other counsel changes I have made in documents submitted to me.
- ∞ I will conduct myself with dignity, civility, courtesy and a sense of fair play.
- ∞ I will not abuse or misuse the law, its procedures or the participants in the judicial process.
- ∞ I will consult with other counsel whenever scheduling procedures are required and will be cooperative in scheduling discovery, hearings, the testimony of witnesses and in the handling of the entire course of any legal matter.
- ∞ I will not file or oppose pleadings, conduct discovery or utilize any course of conduct for the purpose of undue delay or harassment of any other counsel or party. I will allow counsel fair opportunity to respond and will grant reasonable requests for extensions of time.
- ∞ I will not engage in personal attacks on other counsel or the court. I will support my profession's efforts to enforce its disciplinary rules and will not make unfounded allegations of unethical conduct about other counsel.
- ∞ I will not use the threat of sanctions as a litigation tactic.
- ∞ I will cooperate with counsel and the court to reduce the cost of litigation and will readily stipulate to all matters not in dispute.
- ∞ I will be punctual in my communication with clients, other counsel and the court, and in honoring scheduled appearances.



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Signature, Louisiana State Bar Association Member

*Following approval by the Louisiana State Bar Association House of Delegates and Board of Governors at the Mid-Year Meeting, and approval by the Supreme Court of Louisiana on Jan. 10, 1992, the Code of Professionalism was adopted for the membership. The Code originated out of the Professionalism and Quality of Life Committee.*