

**HAS THE PANDEMIC LED TO THE DESTRUCTION
OF CIVILITY: THE TEXAS LAWYER'S
CREED IN MODERN LITIGATION**

Hon. Karin Crump, Austin
Judge, 250th District Court

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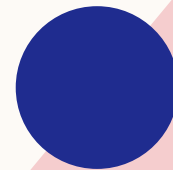
PROGRAM

The Landscape

The Why

The Texas Lawyer's Creed

The Solutions





THE LANDSCAPE

The Courts

Plaintiffs and their Counsel

Defendants and their Counsel



THE WHY



THE TEXAS LAWYER'S CREED



THE TEXAS LAWYER'S CREED: A MANDATE FOR PROFESSIONALISM

I AM A LAWYER. I AM ENTRUSTED BY THE PEOPLE OF TEXAS TO PRESERVE AND IMPROVE OUR LEGAL SYSTEM. I AM LICENSED BY THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS. I MUST THEREFORE ABIDE BY THE TEXAS DISCIPLINARY RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT, BUT I KNOW THAT PROFESSIONALISM REQUIRES MORE THAN MERELY AVOIDING THE VIOLATION OF LAWS AND RULES. I AM COMMITTED TO THIS CREED FOR NO OTHER REASON THAN IT IS RIGHT.

The background features a vertical line on the left side. To the left of this line, there are concentric white circles on a light green background. To the right of the line, there are three colored triangular shapes: a blue one at the top, a light pink one at the bottom left, and a red one at the bottom right.

I. OUR LEGAL SYSTEM

**A LAWYER OWES TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE
PERSONAL DIGNITY, INTEGRITY, AND INDEPENDENCE. A
LAWYER SHOULD ALWAYS ADHERE TO THE HIGHEST
PRINCIPLES OF PROFESSIONALISM.**



II. LAWYER TO CLIENT

A LAWYER OWES TO A CLIENT ALLEGIANCE, LEARNING, SKILL, AND INDUSTRY. A LAWYER SHALL EMPLOY ALL APPROPRIATE LEGAL MEANS TO PROTECT AND ADVANCE THE CLIENT'S LEGITIMATE RIGHTS, CLAIMS, AND OBJECTIVES. A LAWYER SHALL NOT BE DETERRED BY ANY REAL OR IMAGINED FEAR OF JUDICIAL DISFAVOR OR PUBLIC UNPOPULARITY, NOR BE INFLUENCED BY MERE SELF-INTEREST.

III. LAWYER TO LAWYER

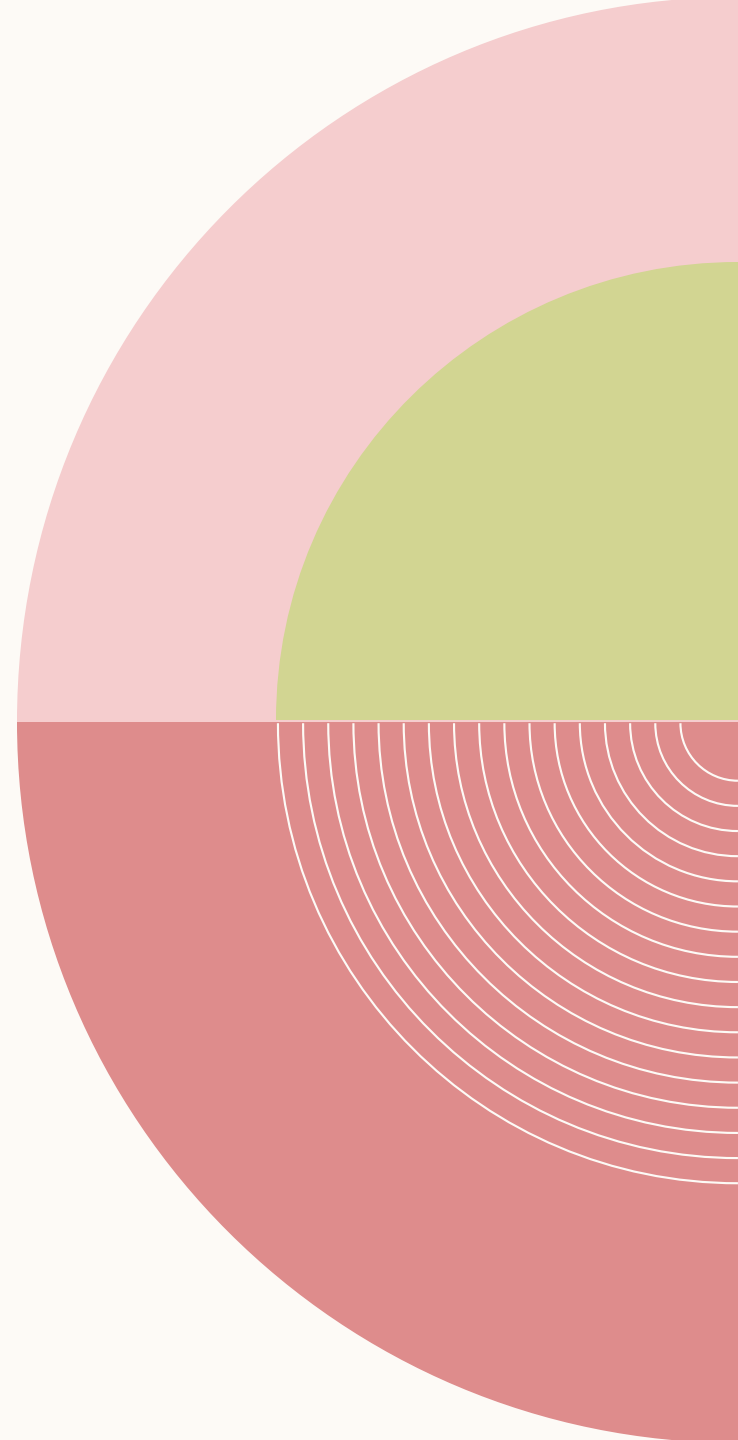
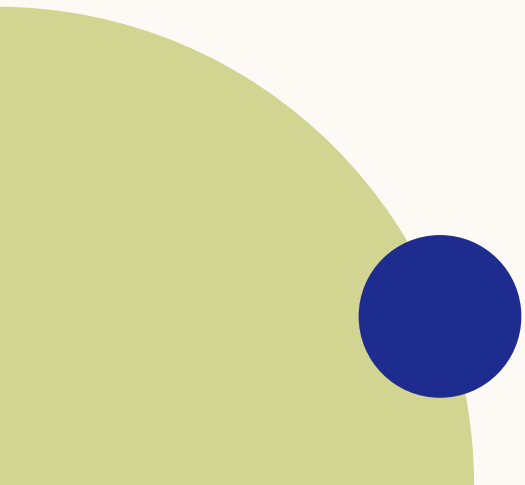
A LAWYER OWES TO OPPOSING COUNSEL, IN THE CONDUCT OF LEGAL TRANSACTIONS AND THE PURSUIT OF LITIGATION, COURTESY, CANDOR, COOPERATION, AND SCRUPULOUS OBSERVANCE OF ALL AGREEMENTS AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDINGS. ILL FEELINGS BETWEEN CLIENTS SHALL NOT INFLUENCE A LAWYER'S CONDUCT, ATTITUDE, OR DEMEANOR TOWARD OPPOSING COUNSEL. A LAWYER SHALL NOT ENGAGE IN UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT IN RETALIATION AGAINST OTHER UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT.



IV. LAWYER AND JUDGE

LAWYERS AND JUDGES OWE EACH OTHER RESPECT, DILIGENCE, CANDOR, PUNCTUALITY, AND PROTECTION AGAINST UNJUST AND IMPROPER CRITICISM AND ATTACK. LAWYERS AND JUDGES ARE EQUALLY RESPONSIBLE TO PROTECT THE DIGNITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF THE COURT AND THE PROFESSION.

SOLUTIONS



THANK YOU

Judge Karin Crump

Jennifer A. King

Laura Brown