



## DALLAS BAR ASSOCIATION DAY OF CIVILITY

Co-Sponsors:

American Inns of Court in Dallas

Dallas ABOTA

State Bar of Texas Professionalism Committee

August 8, 2016

Dear Dallas Attorney:

In continuation of our efforts and emphasis on professionalism, we are supporting September 9, 2016 as a Day of Civility and Professionalism for attorneys. We, Dallas federal and state judges, with the support of the Dallas Bar Association, the local Inns of Court and the Dallas Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates, strongly encourage you to participate in reaffirming the Texas Lawyer's Creed on September 9, by conducting yourself with the utmost courtesy and professionalism toward judges, adversaries, peers, workplace colleagues and in performing your duties to your clients, and with the highest degree of civility toward other counsel and their clients.

Civility is the hallmark of a professional. That term was clearly described by Justice Anthony Kennedy in these words. "[Civility ...] is not some bumper-sticker slogan, 'Have you hugged your adversary today?' Civility is the mark of an accomplished and superb professional, but it is even more than this. It is an end in itself. Civility has deep roots in the idea of respect for the individual." Justice Anthony Kennedy, 1997 Speech, ABA Annual Meeting.

While vigorously representing your clients, we urge you to embrace the principles espoused in the *Dondi* opinion, 121 F.R.D. 284 (N.D. Tex. 1988), and the Texas Lawyers' Creed. Always be mindful of your responsibility to act with civility to preserve our system of justice.

The DBA, the Inns of Court and ABOTA will be jointly presenting a free half day seminar on this Day of Professionalism and Civility at the Belo Mansion, 2101 Ross Avenue from 12:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on September 9, 2016 for which four (4) hours of ethics credit is being sought. The program will be followed by a reception from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. Please participate and encourage your colleagues to participate as well.

Sincerely,

Chief Judge Barbara M. G. Lynn  
United States District Court  
Northern District of Texas

Chief Judge Barbara J. Houser  
United States Bankruptcy Court  
Northern District of Texas

Chief Justice Carolyn Wright  
Fifth District Court of Appeals  
for the State of Texas

Mary Murphy  
Presiding Judge  
First Administrative Judicial Region  
Dallas County, Texas

Presiding Judge Ken Molberg  
95<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court  
Local Administrative District Judge  
Dallas County, Texas

Presiding Judge Tonya Parker  
116<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court  
Dallas County, Texas

Presiding Judge Cheryl Lee Shannon  
305<sup>th</sup> Juvenile District Court  
Dallas County, Texas

Presiding Judge Gracie Lewis  
Criminal District Court No. 3  
Dallas County, Texas

Presiding Judge Tena Callahan  
302<sup>nd</sup> Family District Court  
Dallas County, Texas

Presiding Judge D'Metria Benson  
County Court at Law No. 1  
Dallas, County, Texas

Presiding Judge Nancy Mulder  
County Criminal Court No. 4  
Dallas County, Texas

Presiding Judge Brenda Hull Thompson  
Dallas County Probate Court  
Dallas County, Texas