

## **CIVILITY AND COLLEGIALLY**

Since our legal system is adversarial by design, one of the most important lessons lawyers can learn is to be able to disagree without being disagreeable. Civility seems to come easier to some than others, but it is an attribute that can be learned or acquired. Greet every lawyer with a handshake, and it will send a strong message to clients that you will be respectful to each other in your joint quest for justice. Treat all clerks, law enforcement officers, and staff personnel with dignity and respect; we are all members of the legal community. Work hard at developing a sense of collegiality among the members of your bar with whom you work closely. Mentor a new lawyer; honor an older lawyer; and convince every client that his or her case is the most important case in your office.