

PROCLAMATION IN RE: LEGAL PROFESSIONALISM MONTH

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of Florida has exclusive authority to regulate the admission and discipline of lawyers in Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of Florida has adopted a code of professional conduct, established the Florida Board of Bar Examiners to administer the admissions process, and created The Florida Bar "to inculcate in its members the principles of duty and service to the public, to improve the administration of justice, and to advance the science of jurisprudence"; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of Florida is entrusted with the authority and responsibility to determine who holds the character, knowledge, and skill to represent clients and serve as an officer of the court; and

WHEREAS, Florida's eleven law schools impart knowledge and skill and foster the passion for law; and

WHEREAS, members of the legal profession are above all public servants having the distinctive responsibility for defending the rule of law, improving access to justice, advancing respect for the field of law, maintaining the respect due to courts of justice and judicial officers, and supporting the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the priorities of The Florida Bar include communicating with their membership and Florida's citizens, monitoring the evolving needs of Florida lawyers, promoting mental health and wellness awareness initiatives, evaluating new and innovative potential solutions to address the gap in legal services for under-served Florida citizens, enhancing the legal profession's capacity to meet the legal needs of all Floridians, and working to ensure equality under the law for all people;

WHEREAS, The Florida Bar is dedicated to encouraging lawyers to attain excellence in the practice of law in service to the people of Florida, to maintain and foster civility at all times, to support the advancement of the legal profession, and to strive for the highest level of professionalism in every respect;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Charles T. Canady, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Florida, do hereby proclaim that November 2021 shall be known within the State Courts System as Legal Professionalism Month. I reaffirm the court system's commitment to setting the highest standards of professionalism and ethics within the field of law, and I call upon judicial officers and Florida lawyers to renew their efforts and rededicate themselves to fulfilling their oaths of office.

DONE IN CHAMBERS on this First Day of November in the Year Two Thousand Twenty-One.

Chon T. Covery

Chief Justice Charles T. Canady

ATTEST:

JOHN A TOMASINO, Clerk of Court

