

## PROCLAMATION OF THE TEXAS DAY OF CIVILITY THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS AND THE COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS OF TEXAS

In conjunction with the State Bar of Texas, we, the Supreme Court of Texas and the Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas, proclaim April 20, 2018, as *The Texas Day of Civility in the Law*.

On that day, we urge all lawyers to participate in programs at bar associations around the State of Texas that will commemorate and focus upon the spirit and aspirations set forth in the Texas Lawyer's Creed.

Further, we urge all lawyers always to conduct themselves with the utmost courtesy and professionalism toward judges, adversaries, peers, workplace colleagues and in performing their duties to their clients, and with the highest degree of civility toward other counsel and their clients.

The Texas Lawyer's Creed was adopted by the Supreme Court of Texas and the Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas by order of November 7, 1989, reaffirmed on March 26, 2013, and amendments were approved through February 1, 2016. In our Order adopting the Creed, we reminded lawyers of the importance that they perform all their duties in an ethical, professional, and civil manner, when we said in part:

The conduct of a lawyer should be characterized at all times by honesty, candor, and fairness. In fulfilling his or her primary duty to a client, a lawyer must be ever mindful of the profession's broader duty to the legal system.

Civility is at the heart of the Texas Lawyer's Creed and is the hallmark of a professional. That term "civility" was adroitly described by Justice Anthony Kennedy of the United States Supreme Court 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.

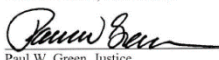
Justice Anthony Kennedy, 1997 Speech, ABA Annual Meeting.

We urge all lawyers to act with civility to preserve our system of justice and to embrace the principles espoused by the Texas Lawyer's Creed as they vigorously represent their clients.

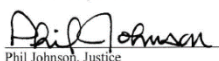
Proclaimed and signed this 16th day of November, 2017.



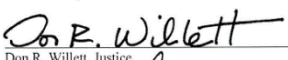
Nathan L. Hecht, Chief Justice



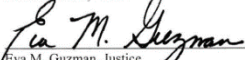
Paul W. Green, Justice



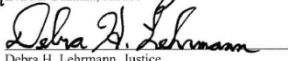
Phil Johnson, Justice



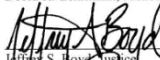
Don R. Willett, Justice



Eva M. Guzman, Justice



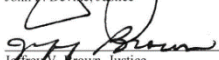
Debra H. Lehmann, Justice



Jeffrey S. Boyd, Justice



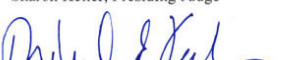
John P. Devine, Justice



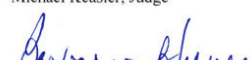
Jeffrey V. Brown, Justice



Sharon Keller, Presiding Judge



Michael Keasler, Judge



Barbara Hervey, Judge



Elsa Alcalá, Judge



Bert Richardson, Judge



Kevin P. Yeary, Judge



David Newell, Judge



Mary Lou Keel, Judge



Scott Walker, Judge