

>> ALL RISE.
HEAR YE, HEAR YE, HEAR YE.
SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA IS NOW
IN CEREMONIAL SESSION.
ALL HAVE WHO CAUSE TO PLEA, DRAW
NEAR, GIVE ATTENTION.
YOU SHALL BE HEARD.
GOD SAVE THESE UNITED STATES,
GREAT STATE OF FLORIDA AND THIS
HONORABLE COURT.
>> LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE
SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA.
PLEASE BE SEATED.
>> WELCOME TO THE FLORIDA
SUPREME COURT.
ON BEHALF OF THE FLORIDA SUPREME
COURT, IT IS MY HONOR TO WELCOME
YOU TO THIS INDUCTION CEREMONY
FOR NEW MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA
BAR.
THIS CEREMONY IS A TIME OF
CELEBRATION, FOR EACH OF YOU
INDUCTEES, YOUR FAMILIES, YOUR
FRIENDS AND EVERYONE WHO HELPED
YOU OVERCOME CHALLENGES ALONG
THE WAY TO THIS PROUD OCCASION.
I AM PROUD TO BE A LAWYER
BECAUSE THROUGHOUT THE HISTORY
OF THIS GREAT NATION IT HAS BEEN
THE AMERICAN LAWYER WHO HAS BEEN
THERE EVERY STEP ALONG THE WAY
IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR
DEMOCRACY.
FOR STARTERS, 25 SIGNERS OF THE
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE WERE
LAWYERS.
23 SIGNERS OF THE CONSTITUTION
OF THE UNITED STATES WERE
LAWYERS.
LAWYERS HAD THEIR HANDS IN THE
LANDMARK DECISION OF MARBURY
VERSUS MADISON, WHICH
ESTABLISHED THE PRINCIPLE OF
JUDICIAL REVIEW OF ACTS OF
CONGRESS.
IT WAS A LAWYER WHO AS PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES SIGNED THE
EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION.
AND IT WAS THIS VERY SAME LAWYER
WHO DID NOT REST UNTIL THE 13TH
AMENDMENT ABOLISHING SLAVERY WAS
RATIFIED IN 1865.
IT WAS A GROUP OF LAWYERS WHO
PRESENTED BROWN VERSUS BOARD OF
EDUCATION TO THE UNITED STATES

SUPREME COURT AND COURAGEOUSLY
LITIGATED CASE AFTER CASE TO
MAKE SURE THE COURT'S RULINGS
WERE ENFORCED.

AND LET US NOT FORGET THE
JUDGES' LAWYERS, WHO AT GREAT
RISK TO THEIR LIVES, ISSUED
THEIR HISTORIC RULINGS ENFORCING
THE BROWN DECISION.

THE EXAMPLES GO ON AND ON.
SO, AS YOU CAN SEE, WE, THE
AMERICAN LAWYER, HAVE
PARTICIPATED IN A CRUCIAL WAY IN
THE ESTABLISHMENT AND THE
DEVELOPMENT OF THIS GREATEST OF
ALL DEMOCRACIES SINCE ITS
BEGINNING.

THIS IS WHY I AM SO PROUD TO BE
A LAWYER, AND THIS IS WHY IT IS
IMPORTANT THAT YOU FEEL PROUD
ABOUT BEING A LAWYER.

WHAT YOU DO AS A LAWYER IS
IMPORTANT, NOT JUST TO YOUR
CLIENTS' INTERESTS, BUT ALSO TO
THE PRESERVATION AND ADVANCEMENT
OF OUR CONSTITUTIONAL SYSTEM.

EACH TIME YOU WALK INTO A
COURTROOM WITH A CASE, YOU'RE
NOT JUST REPRESENTING A CLIENT.
YOU'RE ALSO REAFFIRMING THE
PRECIOUS RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS
THAT ALL OF US ENJOY.

WHAT YOU DO AS A LAWYER IS
IMPORTANT.

THE TORCH IS NOW BEING PASSED TO
YOU, REGARDLESS OF YOUR
POLITICAL BELIEFS, RELIGIOUS
BELIEFS OR ECONOMIC BACKGROUND,
TO CONTINUE TO SAFEGUARD THE
CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLES THAT
HAVE MADE OUR DEMOCRACY
POSSIBLE.

I WELCOME YOU TO OUR BELOVED
PROFESSION, AND AT THIS TIME IT
IS MY HONOR TO CALL UPON WILLIAM
DAVIS, BOARD MEMBER OF THE
FLORIDA BAR, FOR THE REMARKS.

>> THANK YOU, CHIEF JUSTICE
LABARGA AND MEMBERS OF THE
COURT, ADMITTEES TO THE FLORIDA
BAR AND FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

IT IS MY PRIVILEGE ON BEHALF OF
THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS TO
WELCOME ALL OF TO YOU MEMBERSHIP
IN THE FLORIDA BAR.

YOUR HONOR, I DIDN'T CALL THE CALL ABOUT TEN MINUTES, SO I'M GRATEFUL THAT THESE LIGHTS ARE NOT ON, BUT I WILL TRY TO KEEP MY REMARKS BRIEF.

BUT I'VE BEEN GIVING A LOT OF THOUGHT TO WHAT I WANT TO SAY TO YOU ALL THIS MORNING ON BEHALF OF THE FLORIDA BAR.

AND ALSO WE HAVE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION OF THE FLORIDA BAR AND THE LOCAL BAR THAT ARE GOING TO SPEAK TO YOU AS WELL.

BUT I HAVE TWO THINGS THAT I WANT TO COVER AND SHARE WITH YOU.

FIRST OF ALL, I THINK THAT I WANT TO INVITE YOU TO BECOME VERY FULLY INVOLVED IN OUR PROFESSION.

THEY'RE GOING TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT WAYS OF DOING THAT THROUGH YOUR LOCAL BAR AND THROUGH THE YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION AND THROUGH THE FLORIDA BAR.

BUT I WANT TO TELL YOU FROM MY OWN EXPERIENCE THAT INVOLVEMENT IN BAR ACTIVITIES, WHICH MIGHT START WITH GOING TO A SOCIAL FUNCTION AND THEN HELPING WITH A PROJECT, WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH POSSIBLY THE MOST SATISFYING PROFESSIONAL FRIENDSHIPS YOU'LL EVER HAVE.

YOU'LL LEARN THE ROPES.

YOU'LL HEAR GREAT DISCUSSIONS AND ARGUMENTS, PERHAPS, ABOUT THE ISSUES OF THE DAY ON WHICH YOU WILL HAVE TO BE LEADERS.

THE OTHER THING THAT I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT, THOUGH, AND I'M GOING TO SKIP SOME OF MY OTHER REMARKS ABOUT THAT TOPIC, IS WHAT YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT A LOT, WHICH IS PROFESSIONALISM. I REALLY WANT TO HONE IN ON THE MEANING OF PROFESSIONALISM IN OUR TIME AS LAWYERS.

WHEN I WAS A YOUNG LAWYER, I HEARD ALL THE TIME FROM MY COLLEAGUES, MY MENTORS, THAT, YOU KNOW, WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL THAT WE DON'T BECOME JUST A BUSINESS.

WE'RE A PROFESSION.
AND I ALWAYS SORT OF WONDERED
WHAT THAT MEANT.
AND I HAD OCCASION TO
RESEARCH IT.
AND I RESEARCHED IT.
AND THERE'S A LOT OF DIFFERENT
DEFINITIONS.
BUT THE ONE THAT REALLY HUNG
WELL WITH ME WAS THAT A
PROFESSION IS A SKILLED CALLING
WHERE THE PROFESSIONAL PUTS THE
INTEREST OF SOMEONE OR SOMETHING
AHEAD OF HIS OR HER OWN
SELF-INTEREST.
THERE IS SOMEONE OR SOMETHING,
THE INTERESTS OF WHICH ARE PUT
AHEAD OF OUR SELFISH INTERESTS.
AS LAWYERS, IF WE'RE
REPRESENTING CLIENTS, CERTAINLY
THE CLIENT IS ONE OF THE THINGS,
ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE.
WE PUT THE CLIENT'S INTEREST
FIRST.
SO THAT MIGHT MEAN TELLING A
CLIENT THAT IT MIGHT NOT MAKE
BUSINESS SENSE TO HIRE ME GIVEN
THE ODDS OF THEIR CASE.
AND I WOULD LOSE A CLIENT.
OR IT MIGHT BE THAT I NEED TO
DISCUSS WITH THE CLIENT THE
LEGITIMACY OF THE CLIENT'S
EXPECTATIONS OR DESIRES.
THEY MIGHT NOT BE SOMETHING THAT
OUGHT TO BE PURSUED.
THESE ARE PUTTING
OUR SELF-INTEREST AHEAD OF --
EXCUSE ME, OUR CLIENTS AHEAD OF
OURSELVES.
BUT EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN
THIS, FOR ALL OF US, FOR ALL OF
YOU, EVERY SINGLE DAY AS A
CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES AND
AS A LAWYER, YOU WILL BE A
PROFESSIONAL AT ALL TIMES, AND
YOUR COMMITMENT WILL BE TO THE
SYSTEM OF JUSTICE.
AND THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO TALK
ABOUT, IS THE INTERESTS OF
JUSTICE AS EXPRESSED IN OUR
SYSTEM.
YOU ARE AN INDISPENSABLE PART OF
THAT.
YOU UNDERSTAND IT BETTER THAN
ALL THE NONLAWYERS, AND YOU'LL

UNDERSTAND IT MORE AND MORE AS
YOU GROW AND WORK IN IT.
I BELIEVE THAT THIS IS YOUR CORE
PROFESSIONAL INTEREST.
IN PREPARING THESE REMARKS THIS
MORNING, I WAS REFLECTING ON MY
OWN -- ACTUALLY, I WENT ALL THE
WAY BACK TO MY OLD LESSONS TO A
RITE OF PASSAGE REALLY THAT WAS
IN MY CHURCH AS A CHILD.
LEAVING CHILDHOOD, IT WAS CALLED
CONFIRMATION.
AND WE HAD TO DO A LOT OF
STUDYING FOR A TEST.
AND AFTER WE PASSED THE TEST, WE
IN A SENSE TOOK AN OATH.
WE TOOK A PLEDGE.
AND, BY THE WAY, I'LL SAY THAT
THE TEST WAS A LOT EASIER THAN
THE BAR EXAM.
BUT WE WERE IMBUED WITH THIS
CONCEPT IN THAT CHURCH THAT WE
HAD BECOME SOLDIERS OF CHRIST.
WHAT I SUGGEST TO YOU IN A
COMPLETELY SECULAR, NONRELIGIOUS
WAY IS THAT WE AS LAWYERS ARE
SOLDIERS OF JUSTICE.
WE ARE IN THAT CAPACITY REFERRED
TO IN COMMON LANGUAGE AS
OFFICERS OF THE COURT.
WE DEFEND THE COURTS.
WE DEFEND THE SYSTEM OF JUSTICE.
I SUBMIT THAT THIS IS A SACRED
CIVIL DUTY, THAT THIS IS ALSO
GOVERNED BY SELFLESS VALUES
RATHER THAN YOUR PERSONAL
SELF-INTEREST AND WILL.
AND I SUGGEST THAT YOU AND I,
BECAUSE WE ARE ADMITTED TO THE
BAR, PASS THIS WOODEN BAR INTO
THIS SACRED PLACE, HAVE A ROLE
IN PROTECTING THE CORE OF OUR
SOCIETY, THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE
JUDICIARY.
I BELIEVE THAT AS OFFICERS OF
THE COURT, WE HAVE TO BE
COURAGEOUS, WE HAVE TO BE
INDEPENDENT IN OUR THINKING,
AND, AS HISTORY HAS TOLD US, WE
HAVE TO DEFEND OUR SYSTEM, AS
WOULD SOLDIERS OF JUSTICE.
OR DR. KING SAID IF YOU'RE GOOD
AT IT, YOU'D BE A DRUM MAJOR FOR
JUSTICE.
NOW, AS OFFICERS OF THE COURT,

THAT DOESN'T MEAN WE'RE AN AGENT OF ANY TRIBUNAL OR THAT WE'RE AN AGENT OF OUR CLIENT OR OF ANY ELECTED OFFICIAL OR OF ANYONE ELSE.

WHAT WE EVERYWHERE AND ALWAYS WILL DEFEND IS FAIR AND INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE, WHICH IS WHAT? THE RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES AND THE PROTECTION OF RIGHTS WITHIN A SYSTEM FOUNDED UPON FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES THAT ARE TIMELESS OF INTELLECTUAL HONESTY, WHY ARE YOU DOING IT, DO YOU KNOW WHY YOU'RE DOING IT, AND YOU ARTICULATE WHY YOU'RE DOING IT SO THAT OTHERS CAN UNDERSTAND IT INTELLECTUALLY, AND JUDICIAL DISCRETION, THE ABILITY OF JUDGES TO BRING JUSTICE THROUGH THE APPLICATION OF INTELLECTUAL HONESTY. AND THIS IS COMPLETELY DIVORCED FROM A SYSTEM BASED ON FAVORITISM OR THE PROMOTION OF ADVANTAGE.

THIS IS OUR CORE MISSION AS OFFICERS OF THE COURT.

NOW, THE REASON I WANTED TO SPEAK TO THIS IS BECAUSE SINCE THE BEGINNING OF CIVIL HISTORY, THE CONCEPT OF JUSTICE AND OF THE COURTS HAS ALWAYS BEEN IN VARIOUS FORMS OR ANOTHER UNDER ATTACK.

AS A MATTER OF FACT, THE AUTHORS OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE LISTED AMONG THEIR PRIMARY GRIEVANCES AGAINST THE KING WAS THAT THE KING WAS NOT HONORING THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE COURTS AND WAS HAVING JUDGES THAT WOULD JUST CARRY FORTH HIS WILL.

AND THAT WAS ONE OF THE REASONS WHY WE HAD A REVOLUTION IN OUR COUNTRY AGAINST THE ENGLISH, FROM WHOM WE DERIVE OUR COMMON LAW.

SO I'LL JUST SAY THAT IN OUR ROLE, WHAT I'VE JUST SEEN IN THE PAST FEW YEARS IN PAKISTAN, OUR GOVERNMENT IS NOT AT ALL LIKE PAKISTAN, THANK GOODNESS, BUT

THEY HAD -- THEY ARE BASED ON
BRITISH COMMON LAW.
THEY HAD A SUPREME COURT, AND
THE PRESIDENT DECIDED TO REMOVE
THE SUPREME COURT.
AND DO YOU KNOW WHAT?
THE LAWYERS, THE MEN IN THEIR
COATS AND TIES, WERE IN THE
STREETS.
AND THAT'S BEEN RESOLVED.
I NOTICE IN HONGKONG TODAY THE
KIDS WITH THEIR COLORFUL SHOES
AND IPODS ARE CALLING FOR
INDEPENDENT COURTS.
THIS IS A CORE CONCEPT OF THE
DEVELOPMENT OF FREEDOM AND CIVIL
DEMOCRACY, AND WE HAVE -- IT'S
ONLY THE COURTS THAT ARE NOT
POLITICAL.
SO IN CLOSING, I SUGGEST THAT
YOU, EACH OF YOU NOW, AS
OFFICERS OF THE COURT, MUST
INDEPENDENTLY AND ON YOUR OWN,
EXAMINE EVERY PROPOSED CHANGE IN
PROCEDURES FOR SELECTING OR
RETAINING JUDGES AND EXAMINE THE
INTENT AND SOURCE OF EVERY
WELL-FUNDED ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN
OR UNDER THE RADAR OF POLITICAL
MEME TO SEEK OUT AND OVERCOME
EVERY THREAT THAT MAY BE THERE
TO THE PRESERVATION OF OUR
INDEPENDENT COURTS AND THE FAIR
ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.
YOU MUST DO THIS YOURSELF
INDEPENDENTLY AND FORM YOUR
JUDGMENT.
YOU MUST THEN TAKE ACTION AS
OPINION LEADERS IN THE BAR OR IN
YOUR COMMUNITY, IN YOUR CHURCH,
IN YOUR CIVIC CLUB, YOUR
ATHLETIC CLUB, AND AS
CONSTITUENTS OF YOUR ELECTED
REPRESENTATIVES, TO BE SURE THAT
NO SUBTERFUGE DIMINISHES OUR
GOOD WORK OF BUILDING A JUST AND
FREE SOCIETY IN THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA.
I ASK IF NOT YOU, WHO?
WHEN WE'RE ALL GONE, WHO'S GOING
TO BE THERE TO DO THAT?
IT'S GOING TO BE YOU.
AND THAT HAS TO BE YOUR PRIMARY
CALLING.
AND IF THAT IS, I SUGGEST THAT

YOU WILL HAVE A SATISFYING
PROFESSIONAL LIFE.
YOU WILL FEEL GOOD ABOUT
YOURSELF NO MATTER WHAT OTHER
CIRCUMSTANCES TAKE PLACE.
AND YOU'LL BE A GOOD EXAMPLE TO
YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY AND THE
OTHER PEOPLE IN YOUR COMMUNITY.
SO THIS IS A GREAT CALLING
REALLY, AND IT'S -- I THINK IT'S
SOMETHING THAT YOU CAN -- A
FEATHER YOU CAN STICK IN YOUR
HAT WHEN YOU WALK OUT OF HERE
FROM THE COURT TODAY.
BUT MOST OF ALL I DO WANT TO
JUST CONGRATULATE YOU AND YOUR
FAMILIES AND FRIENDS FOR ALL OF
YOUR HARD WORK.
IT'S BEEN A LONG HAUL AND NOW
YOU'VE GOT A LICENSE THAT IF YOU
MAINTAIN AND LIVE UP TO YOUR
GOOD CHARACTER THAT'S BEEN VERY
WELL-VETTED AND YOU MAINTAIN
YOUR COMPETENCE THAT'S BEEN VERY
WELL TESTED, NO ONE CAN TAKE
THAT AWAY FROM YOU.
SO YOU SHOULD WALK OUT OF HERE
WITH A SMILE ON YOUR FACE NO
MATTER WHAT AND A SONG IN YOUR
HEART.
CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF YOU.
THANK YOU, JUDGE.

[APPLAUSE]

>> THANK YOU, MR. DAVIS.
NOW IT'S MY HONOR TO CALL UPON
JAY STANLEY CHAPMAN, PRESIDENT
OF THE TALLAHASSEE BAR
ASSOCIATION, FOR HIS REMARKS.
>> MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT,
MR. CHIEF JUSTICE, MEMBERS OF
THE COURT, PARTICULARLY MY
CLASSMATE ON THE FAR END,
JUSTICE POLSTON, CANDIDATES AND
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.
ONE OF MY DISTINCT PLEASURES AND
PERKS OF BEING ELECTED PRESIDENT
OF THE TALLAHASSEE BAR
ASSOCIATION IS THAT I GET TO
WELCOME THE CANDIDATES FOR
ADMISSION IN 2014, THE NEW
LAWYERS THAT COME THROUGH THIS
GREAT COURT FOR THEIR OATH OF
ADMISSION.
AND AS A TRIAL LAWYER, I LIKE TO
STEER CLEAR OF APPELLATE COURTS

AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, BUT THIS IS
A WELCOME EXCEPTION TO THAT
RULE.

I WAS AN ART MAJOR BEFORE LAW
SCHOOL AND BECAME A LAWYER AS
MUCH BY CHANCE AS PROBABLY
ANYONE YOU'LL RUN INTO.

I SUSPECT IT WAS MORE OF A
DELIBERATE DECISION ON MOST OF
YOU ALL'S PARTS, BUT DON'T THINK
THAT MERELY GOING THROUGH LAW
SCHOOL AND MERELY PASSING THE
BAR EXAM AND MERELY BEING
VETTED, AS BILL DAVIS SAID, THE
HARD PART IS ALL BEHIND YOU NOW.
YOU'VE PICKED A DIFFICULT AND
CHALLENGING, BUT VERY REWARDING
FIELD OF ENDEAVOR.

I GREW UP IN THE 1960s, AND MY
ONLY EXPERIENCE AS A CHILD WITH
LAWYERS WAS WITH A LAWYER NAMED
BOB IRVIN, WHO WAS MY OLDER
SISTER'S BEST FRIEND'S FATHER
AND HAPPENED TO HAVE BEEN THE
PRESIDENT OF THE FLORIDA BAR IN
1965.

THAT DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING TO ME
AT THE TIME.

THE OTHER LAWYER I KNEW WAS A
LAWYER NAMED CHARLIE SPITZ, WHO
HANDLED MY ADOPTION TO MY
ADOPTIVE FATHER, MY STEPFATHER.
THAT WAS IN '69.

AND IT WAS STRIKING TO ME TO
THINK BACK TO HOW GROWING UP WE
VIEWED LAWYERS.

I WAS RAISED TO BELIEVE THAT A
LAWYER COMMANDED THE HIGHEST
RESPECT OF ANY PROFESSION OUT
THERE.

THE HIGHEST.

AND YOU TURNED TO A LAWYER FOR
YOUR MOST IMPORTANT NEEDS.
THAT'S WHAT A LAWYER WAS FOR.
THE LAWYERS THAT I KNEW, NOW
BOTH DEAD, SEEM WELL DESERVED OF
THAT RESPECT, WELL DESERVING.
IT WAS NOT BEFORE I BEGAN
PRACTICING LAW MYSELF THAT I
CAME TO UNDERSTAND WHAT IT
REALLY TAKES, HOW HARD IT IS TO
COMMAND THE RESPECT OF YOUR
CLIENTS AND YOUR COLLEAGUES AND
TO APPRECIATE REALLY HOW THE
ATTITUDE TOWARDS LAWYERS HAVE

CHANGED FROM THE '60s TO
TODAY.

IN MY OLD LAW FIRM, THE IRVIN
FIRM, AS A MATTER OF FACT, THERE
WAS -- ONE OF MY PARTNERS HAD A
HAND-PAINTED SIGN JUST INSIDE
HER DOOR.

IT WAS ONE OF THOSE SORT OF GAG
ADVERTISEMENTS, HAND PAINTED,
SOMETHING YOU MIGHT PICK UP AT A
CRAFT SHOW.

AND IT SAID "LEGAL ADVICE GIVEN
HERE, GOOD, FAST AND CHEAP, AND
YOU CAN HAVE ANY TWO OF THE
THREE."

NOW, IF YOU THINK ABOUT THAT,
THAT MAKES A LOT OF SENSE.

ONE OF THE PROBLEMS WE HAVE NOW
AS A PROFESSION THAT WE HAVE TO
DEAL WITH IS THE GENERAL PUBLIC
DOESN'T BUY IT.

THEY DON'T THINK LAWYERS DO ANY
OF THOSE THINGS, NOT GOOD, NOT
FAST AND SURE AS HECK NOT CHEAP.
AND THAT'S A PROBLEM.

RESPECT FOR OUR PROFESSION HAS
DECLINED FROM BEING NEAR THE TOP
TO BEING NEAR THE BOTTOM.

AND I DON'T THINK THAT THAT'S A
RESULT OF THERE BEING THAT MANY
BAD APPLES IN THE BARREL.

I BELIEVE THIS DECLINE CAN
LARGELY BE EXPLAINED BY THE FACT
THAT THE PUBLIC HAS FALLEN SO
FAR IN ITS UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT
IT IS THAT WE DO, WHAT OUR ROLE
IS, WHAT THE JUDICIAL BRANCH
DOES.

HECK, YOU KNOW, THE FACT THAT
THERE EVEN IS A JUDICIAL BRANCH.
I THINK 37% OF OUR COUNTRY
DOESN'T EVEN KNOW THAT.

SO THIS IS A PROBLEM.

AND BILL DAVIS ALLUDED TO THIS
PROBLEM.

SO THAT'S THE FIRST THING I'D
LIKE FOR YOU TO THINK ABOUT FOR
MY COMMENTS TODAY.

AND THE PAST PRESIDENT OF THE
FLORIDA BAR, GENE PETTIS, SAID
THIS OVER AND OVER.

IF WE AS LAWYERS DO NOT TAKE UP
THE TASK OF EDUCATING THE PUBLIC
ABOUT THE COURTS, THE RULE OF
LAW AND OUR PROFESSION, WHO

WILL?

WHO WILL?

WE ALL NEED TO FIND WAYS TO REACH OUT AND EDUCATE THE PUBLIC, AND WE ALL NEED TO FIND WAYS TO MAKE EXAMPLES OF OURSELF, GOOD EXAMPLES, TO LIFT THIS PROFESSION.

AND THIS IS MY CHANCE TO PLUG, AS BILL FORESHADOWED, MEMBERSHIP IN LOCAL BAR ASSOCIATIONS, SERVICE TO THE BAR.

IF YOU PLAN TO STAY HERE IN TALLAHASSEE, JOIN THE TALLAHASSEE BAR ASSOCIATION.

IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO STICK AROUND HERE, JOIN YOUR LOCAL BAR ASSOCIATION.

IF YOU HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO, TRY TO GET -- SERVE ON A COMMITTEE OF THE FLORIDA BAR IN AN AREA THAT INTERESTS YOU AND SERVE THE BIG BAR THAT WAY.

THE FELLOWSHIP, MENTORING, NETWORKING AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ADVANCEMENTS THAT YOU GAIN THROUGH THOSE KIND OF ASSOCIATIONS IS IMMEASURABLE. TRULY IS.

AS FOR PROFESSIONALISM, RECOGNIZE THAT THE MOST VALUABLE ASSET THAT YOU CAN CARRY WITH YOU THROUGH YOUR CAREERS IS THE RESPECT OF YOUR COLLEAGUES, THAT YOU ARE HONEST, THAT YOU'RE RELIABLE AND THAT YOU'RE PROFESSIONAL IN YOUR DEALINGS WITH OTHERS, WITH ALL OTHERS, INCLUDING YOUR OPPONENTS.

ANOTHER FORMER PARTNER OF MINE, WHO IS A WELL-KNOWN TRIAL LAWYER, DINO, HE GAVE THE MOST SUCCINCT ETHICS LESSON YOU'LL EVER HEAR.

"IF IT AIN'T SO, DON'T SAY IT. IF IT AIN'T RIGHT, DON'T DO IT." THAT'S IT.

EVERYTHING FLOWS FROM THAT.

MY FINAL THOUGHTS FOR YOU TODAY ARE ABOUT BEING SUCCESSFUL AS LAWYERS, SOMETHING I HOPE YOU ALL ASCRIBE TO BE.

I CONFESS THAT I'M PRETTY MUCH A NPR JUNKIE, AND I WAS LISTENING TO THAT GREAT BASTION OF

CONSERVATIVE THOUGHT, THE
COMMONWEALTH CLUB OF
CALIFORNIA'S WEEKLY BROADCAST.
THE GUEST WAS PITCHING A NEW
BOOK ABOUT WOMEN AND SUCCESS.
BUT WHAT STRUCK ME AS THE BASIC
PREMISE OF HER BOOK IS THE
CONCEPT TRANSCENDS GENDER AND IS
PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE TO
YOUNG LAWYERS JUST BEGINNING,
LAUNCHING THEIR CAREER.
AND I THOUGHT ABOUT THIS A LOT
LOOKING BACK AT MY OWN.
AND THAT CONCEPT IS THAT EVEN
THOUGH PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS HAS
IN THE PAST ALWAYS BEEN MEASURED
BY POWER AND WEALTH, THAT UNLESS
YOU ADD THAT ELEMENT OF
HAPPINESS, UNLESS YOU CAN BE
HAPPY IN YOUR LIFE, YOU HAVE
NEVER TRULY ATTAINED SUCCESS.
SO I URGE YOU AS YOU GO THROUGH
YOUR CAREERS, WHICH WILL
HOPEFULLY BE LONG AND
SUCCESSFUL, THAT YOU REMEMBER TO
TAKE TIME OUT FOR YOURSELVES.
DON'T MISS OUT ON SPENDING TIME
WITH YOUR FAMILIES, WITH YOUR
FRIENDS.
DO NOT FIND YOURSELF AT THE END
OF CAREERS LOOKING BACK WITH
REGRETS ABOUT ALL THE TIME
MISSED OUT WITH OTHERS THAT YOU
CAN NEVER MAKE UP.
UNDER A DEFINITION OF SUCCESS
THAT INCLUDES THAT TERM,
HAPPINESS, I WISH YOU ALL THE
GREATEST OF SUCCESS IN YOUR
CAREERS.
THANK YOU.
[APPLAUSE]
>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAPMAN.
IT IS MY HONOR TO CALL UPON
MICHAEL FOX ORR.
>> CONGRATULATIONS.
IT'S VERY EXCITING, VERY
EXCITING MOMENT TO BE HERE, TO
WATCH ALL OF THIS AND TO SEE
THIS PROCEEDING.
YOU'RE GOING TO WALK OUT THAT
DOOR, AND YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE
COUNTLESS OPPORTUNITIES AND
ENDLESS RESOURCES AT YOUR
DISPOSAL.
ONE OF THOSE RESOURCES IS THE

YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION, OF WHICH YOU'LL ALL AUTOMATICALLY BE MEMBERS OF.

YOU'RE WITHIN YOUR FIRST FIVE YEARS OF PRACTICE OR UNDER THE AGE OF 36, YOU'RE AUTOMATICALLY A MEMBER.

IF YOU GO TO OUR WEBSITE, YOU WILL FIND RESOURCES THERE AND JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO DIRECT YOU ON WHERE YOU NEED TO GO WITHIN YOUR PRACTICE.

BUT I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE JOINING, AND I GOT THESE NUMBERS MOMENTS AGO.

1600 NEW LAWYERS JUST PASSED THIS BAR EXAM, BRINGING OUR TOTAL IN THE STATE TO 98,954 LAWYERS.

AND OUT OF THAT NUMBER, 25,444 YOUNG LAWYERS.

YOU ARE SOMETHING SPECIAL.

YOU ARE PART OF A LARGE GROUP. AND WHILE THOSE NUMBERS MAY SEEM LARGE TO SOME PEOPLE, THE POPULATION IN FLORIDA THAT NEEDS YOUR HELP IS MUCH LARGER, AND THERE AREN'T ENOUGH LAWYERS TO GO AROUND TO HELP AND TO FULFILL THE NEED THAT IS OUT THERE RIGHT NOW.

SO THERE'S A TREMENDOUS OPPORTUNITY FOR EACH OF YOU.

AND IN THAT OPPORTUNITY ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS THAT YOU CAN DO FOR YOURSELF IS TO OBTAIN A MENTOR.

IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE IT, PLEASE DO IT NOW.

I'LL GIVE YOU THE BENEFIT OF MY PERSONAL EXPERIENCE.

I WORKED FOR A LARGE FIRM AND ALWAYS WANTED TO OPEN UP MY OWN FIRM.

AFTER PRACTICING FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS, I THOUGHT I WAS READY, AND A CLIENT SAT DOWN WITH ME ONE DAY AND HE SAID, MICHAEL, WHY DON'T YOU TAKE FIVE MINUTES AND GO TALK TO CARL DAWSON, A LAWYER IN JACKSONVILLE.

HE HAD GRADUATED IN UF IN 1951, WHEN THEY DIDN'T HAND OUT JDs.

I THINK THEY WERE CALLED LLBs. BUT HE HAD A LAW DEGREE AND HE

DIDN'T TAKE A BAR EXAM.
HE JUST PASSED OR BECAME A
MEMBER, RATHER.
AND SO I SAT AND TALKED WITH
HIM.
AND HE SAID YOU KNOW WHAT?
I'VE GOT AN EMPTY OFFICE.
YOU CAN OPEN YOUR FIRM.
WHY DON'T YOU PRACTICE AND WE
CAN CONFER ON DIFFERENT THINGS.
I'VE GOT SOME THINGS I MAY NEED
SOME HELP ON BECAUSE I'M KIND OF
WINDING DOWN.
I SAID THAT'S A GREAT IDEA.
THAT MOMENT AND THAT DECISION OF
JUST SELECTING AN OFFICE NEAR
THAT LAWYER AND BEING ABLE TO
TALK WITH HIM CAUSED MY LIFE AND
MY CAREER TO CHANGE FOREVER.
WE GREW FROM TWO OR THREE PEOPLE
TO AN OFFICE OF 20 IN A MATTER
OF 4.5 YEARS.
AND EVERY DAY I MAKE IT A POINT
TO GO IN HIS OFFICE IF HE'S
THERE AND TALK TO HIM.
HE'S FORGOTTEN MORE THAN I'LL
EVER LEARN IN HIS LIFETIME AFTER
63 YEARS OF PRACTICE.
NOT EVERY ONE OF YOU ARE GOING
TO HAVE SOMETHING LIKE THAT
RIGHT OUTSIDE YOUR DOOR OR RIGHT
IN YOUR COMMUNITY.
AND THAT'S WHY IF YOU GO TO OUR
WEBSITE, ONE THING THAT WE'VE
DONE WITH THE YOUNG LAWYERS
DIVISION IS PUT ON A PROGRAM
CALLED "MENTORING WITH THE
MASTERS."
IT'S A PROGRAM THAT AS OF TWO
DAYS AGO I JUST LEARNED THE
AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION AND ITS
YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION IS DOING
A NATIONAL HIGHLIGHT ON THE
PROGRAM AND GOING TO ENCOURAGE
OTHER STATES TO REPLICATE IT.
WE HAVE IN EXCESS OF 20 VIDEOS.
THEY'RE SHORT, THREE-MINUTE
CLIPS FROM SOME OF THE BAR'S
BEST AND BRIGHTEST ON ALL SORTS
OF DIFFERENT TOPICS, FROM YOUR
PRACTICE TO SPECIFIC SUBJECTS OR
AREAS OF LAW.
AND INSTEAD OF HAVING THAT
PERSON THAT YOU CAN PICK UP THE
PHONE AND CALL, YOU CAN GO

ONLINE AT ANY TIME AND HAVE THAT THERE FOR THREE MINUTES AND PICK UP INFORMATION ON A PARTICULAR TOPIC.

AND WE'RE GOING TO GROW THAT DATABASE.

SO I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO KNOW THAT A LOT OF YOUNG LAWYERS COME UP TO ME AND TO OUR BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR THE YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION SAYING I DON'T WANT A MENTOR BECAUSE THERE'S A STIGMA THERE.

I DON'T WANT MY CLIENT THINKING THAT I'M SO NEW THAT I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M DOING.

AND SO I'M HAVING TO GO TO SOMEBODY ELSE TO SEEK ADVICE OR I'M SEEN TALKING TO THIS OTHER PERSON TRYING TO GET INFORMATION BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M DOING.

THAT WOULD BE THE MOST TERRIBLE MISTAKE YOU COULD MAKE STARTING OUT YOUR CAREERS.

DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE YOU HAVE IN LEARNING FROM SOMEBODY ELSE.

I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT WHEN YOU START YOUR PRACTICE, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS, BASIC CLES, PRACTICING WITH PROFESSIONALISM.

THE YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION PUTS THAT ON.

THERE ARE 20 CIRCUITS IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA.

YOU HAVE REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALL OVER THE STATE THAT ELECT PEOPLE TO A BOARD OF ABOUT 60, AND WE PUT ON THESE PROGRAMS FOR YOU, THE CLES AND PRACTICING WITH PROFESSIONALISM.

IF YOU TAKE THOSE PROGRAMS AND YOU HAVE IDEAS ON WAYS THEY CAN BE DONE BETTER, DON'T BE SILENT ABOUT IT.

PLEASE LET US KNOW.

WE'RE ALWAYS TRYING TO DEVELOP THE PROGRAMS AND INCREASE PARTICIPATION IN THOSE, AND RECENTLY WE ARE WORKING TO INCORPORATE TECHNOLOGY.

YOU'LL SEE AS YOU ENTER THE PRACTICE, YOU'LL ALL START

GETTING THE FLORIDA BAR NEWS,
AND IT WILL HIGHLIGHT A NUMBER
OF DIFFERENT THINGS GOING ON
WITHIN THE PROFESSION.
MAKE SURE YOU READ IT.
JUST LIKE WHAT MR.DAVIS WAS
SAYING WITH RESPECT TO GETTING
INVOLVED IN YOUR LOCAL BAR
AFFILIATES, SEEING WHAT'S GOING
ON IN THE PROFESSION IS
IMPORTANT, AND BEING APPRISED OF
THAT.
YOU'LL SEE THAT TECHNOLOGY IS A
BIG DEAL RIGHT NOW.
WE'RE TRYING TO ENCOMPASS
TECHNOLOGY WITH EVERYTHING WE
DO.
AND THE FLORIDA BAR'S PRESIDENT,
GREG COLEMAN, HAS MADE IT AN
INITIATIVE OF HIS.
NO BETTER PEOPLE TO HELP US WITH
THE TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE THAN
YOUNG LAWYERS.
SO I THINK THAT AT THIS POINT
YOU'RE ALL READY TO HEAR FROM
ONE OTHER PRESENTER AND THEN
SOME REMARKS FROM THE COURT AND
THEN YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE THAT
OATH.
AND I'M PROUD OF YOU.
I'M EXCITED FOR YOU.
KNOW THAT YOU HAVE AN
OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A TREMENDOUS
DIFFERENCE.
AND WE'RE ALL READY FOR YOU TO
DO THAT.
THANK YOU.
[APPLAUSE]
>> THANK YOU.
EACH YEAR, WE SELECT A CANDIDATE
WHO HAS EXCELLED ON THE BAR
EXAMINATION, TO MAKE REMARKS ON
BEHALF OF THE NEWLY-ADMITTED
LAWYERS.
FOR THAT PURPOSE, IT IS MY HONOR
TO CALL UPON ALEXANDER MARTINI
TO MAKE THE REMARKS.
[APPLAUSE]
>> THANK YOU, CHIEF JUSTICE,
MEMBERS OF THE COURT.
I'D LIKE TO THANK THE CHIEF
JUSTICE FOR THIS GRACIOUS
INVITATION.
IT'S TRULY AN HONOR AND A
PLEASURE TO BE HERE.

I'D ALSO LIKE TO CONGRATULATE
ALL THE CANDIDATES WHO ARE ABOUT
TO BE SWORN IN TODAY.
MY REMARKS WILL BE SHORT.
BEEN TOLD ON MORE THAN ONE
OCCASION THAT I SPEAK VERY
SLOWLY, SO I'LL TRY TO PICK UP
THE PACE.
OBVIOUSLY I'M HERE TODAY BECAUSE
I DID WELL ON AN EXTREMELY
CHALLENGING EXAM.
BUT THE UNDERLYING REASON WHY
I'M HERE TODAY IS OPPORTUNITY.
SPECIFICALLY, THE OPPORTUNITY TO
ATTEND THE EVENING PROGRAM AT
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE
OF LAW.
I RECENTLY LEARNED THAT OF THE
11 FLORIDA LAW SCHOOLS, LESS
THAN HALF OF THESE SCHOOLS HAVE
EVENING PROGRAMS.
AND OF THE SCHOOLS THAT DO, ONLY
TWO ARE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.
I COMMEND FIU LAW FOR BEING THE
SOLE PUBLIC INSTITUTION IN SOUTH
FLORIDA TO OFFER THE EVENING LAW
SCHOOL PROGRAM.
AND I HOPE THAT IT REMAINS
COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING AND
STRENGTHENING THAT PROGRAM.
AND I HOPE OTHER PUBLIC AND
PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS IN THE
STATE WILL FOLLOW SUIT.
I SHOULD PROBABLY REMARK ON WHAT
BECOMING AN ATTORNEY MEANS TO
ME, BUT I'VE BEEN AN ATTORNEY
FOR LESS THAN TWO WEEKS NOW, AND
I IMAGINE THAT ITS MEANING WILL
GROW AND CHANGE OVER TIME.
THERE'S NOT MUCH THAT I CAN ADD
THAT THESE DISTINGUISHED
GENTLEMEN HERE HAVE NOT ALREADY
SAID.
BUT WHAT I CAN SHARE WITH YOU
TODAY IS THE GUIDING PRINCIPLE
THAT BROUGHT ME HERE AND WILL
STAY WITH ME THROUGHOUT MY
CAREER AS AN ATTORNEY.
MY GODMOTHER TOLD ME MANY YEARS
AGO THAT ANYTHING WORTH DOING IN
LIFE IS WORTH DOING RIGHT.
SO I SPENT THE LAST FOUR YEARS
LEARNING AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE,
TAKING EVERY CLASS AND EVERY
EXAM SERIOUSLY.

MY WIFE AND I, WHO WAS ALSO IN
LAW SCHOOL AT THE TIME, SPENT
OUR WEEKDAYS AT WORK, OUR WEEK
NIGHTS AT SCHOOL, OUR WEEKENDS
STUDYING, PREPARING FOR THE NEXT
WEEK.

THIS HARD WORK PAID OFF FOR US
IN LAW SCHOOL, PAID OFF ON THE
BAR EXAM.

AND SO I ENTER THIS NEW
PROFESSION NOT KNOWING WHAT
EXACTLY AWAITS ME, BUT KNOWING
THAT WHATEVER PATH I TAKE,
WHATEVER CASE OR MATTER I TAKE
ON, I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT BEING
AN ATTORNEY IS WORTHWHILE.
AND SO I'LL TREAT EVERY DAY AS
AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN AND
GROW.

I HOPE ALL THE NEW INDUCTEES
HERE WILL DO THE SAME.

YOU'LL ENGAGE IN MANY DIFFERENT
TYPES OF PRACTICES AND MANY
DIFFERENT AREAS OF LAW.

BUT WHATEVER YOU DO, IF YOU DO
IT RIGHT; THAT IS, TO THE BEST
OF YOUR ABILITY AND WITH FULL
AND COMPLETE DEDICATION, YOU
WILL BE SUCCESSFUL.

I'D LIKE TO THANK MY WIFE,
MELISSA, WHO GRADUATED FROM LAW
SCHOOL IN MAY AND JUST PASSED
THE FLORIDA BAR AS WELL, FOR MY
INSPIRATION, MY MOTIVATION.

I'D ALSO LIKE TO THANK MY
FAMILY, SOME OF WHOM ARE IN
ATTENDANCE TODAY.

WITHOUT YOUR ENCOURAGEMENT AND
UNWAVERING BELIEF IN ME, I WOULD
NOT BE THE PERSON I AM TODAY.

ONCE AGAIN, CONGRATULATIONS.

THANK THE COURT.

>> THANK YOU.

[APPLAUSE]

>> THANK YOU.

THE COURT WILL NOW RECOGNIZE
DONNA BLANTON, MEMBER OF THE
FLORIDA BAR OF EXAMINERS, TO
PRESENT THE CANDIDATES AND MOVE
FOR THEIR ADMISSION.

>> THANK YOU, CHIEF JUSTICE
LABARGA, MEMBERS OF THE COURT.
THE CANDIDATES BEFORE YOU HAVE
BEEN RIGOROUSLY EXAMINED BY THE
BOARD, BOTH AS TO KNOWLEDGE OF

THE LAW AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE
STANDARDS AND IDEALS OF THE
LEGAL PROFESSION.

IN ADDITION, THEIR BACKGROUNDS
HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO SEARCHING
CHARACTER AND FITNESS
INVESTIGATIONS.

ON BEHALF OF THE FLORIDA BOARD
OF BAR EXAMINERS, I CERTIFY THAT
THESE CANDIDATES ARE FULLY
QUALIFIED AND THAT EACH ENJOYS
THE ENTHUSIASTIC RECOMMENDATION
OF THE BOARD FOR ADMISSION TO
THE BAR OF FLORIDA.

I'D LIKE TO READ THE NAMES OF
THE MEMBERS, OF THE APPLICANTS
HERE TODAY.

WHEN YOUR NAME IS READ, IF YOU
COULD PLEASE STAND AND REMAIN
STANDING UNTIL ALL THE NAMES
HAVE BEEN READ.

MS. ERIN ELIZABETH BAUR

MR. ALEXANDER R. BOLER

MS. MARIA JANIABRASWELL

MR. CHRISTOPHER D. BUTLER

MR. BRANDON ULYSSES CAMPBELL

MR. CAMERON H. CARSTENS

MR. JOHN JUDE CAVALIERE III

MR. MAXWELL XIAOCHE

MR. JONATHAN LEVY DARDEN

MISS ANGELA R. DI BARTOLOMEO

MR. THOMAS E. DUNKLE

MR. CHAD WAYNE DUNN

MS. CHELSEA RAE ENRIGHT

MISS JESSICA LEIGH FELLOWS

MR. GUNTER A. FERNANDEZ

MR. BRYAN LEVI GALLIAN

MR. DAVID JAY HALLSTROM

MS. DIANE MARIE HERNANDEZ

MR. MARC BRANDON HERNANDEZ

MS. LAUREN JOHNSON.

MR. KEVIN ANDREW JOYCE

MR. MICHAEL F. LACAVA

MS. STEPHANIE ELONA LEVITT

MS. KYESHA R. MAPP

MR. ALEXANDER NICHOLAS MARTINI

MR. DAVID RAYMOND MICA, JR.

MR. CHRISTOPHER MILLER.

MS. SARAH SHANNON MORGAN

MR. JON FRANKLIN MORRIS

MR. NICHOLAS DANIEL NIEMIEC

MS. SHAKEMA MONIQUE ONIAS

MR. CHRISTOPHER TODD OWEN

MR. JOHNNY RAMIREZ

MR. GLENN WALLACE RININGER III

MS. VALERIYAVITALYEVNARYMAR
AND I APOLOGIZE IF I BOTCHED
YOUR NAME.

MISS LAUREN MARIE SIEASMAN
MS. SARAH JANE STEINHARDT
MS. KRISTEN MICHELLE SUMMERS
MS. MARY KATHLEEN THOMAS
MR. MICHAEL DAVID TOOLEY
MS. ANGELA LYNN TRAWICK
MS. AMANDA AFEAZUEUWAIBI
MR. ANDREW WESCOTT
MR. S. CHASE WILLIAMS
MR. S. CHASE WILLIAMS
MR. TAYLOR S. WOLFF
MR. GRAHAM EDWARD WOODEN

>> ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD, I
MOVE THAT THESE CANDIDATES BE
ADMITTED TO THE FLORIDA BAR.

>> THANK YOU.

THE COURT ACCEPTS YOUR MOTION
AND GRANTS IT.

WELL, THE MOMENT HAS COME FOR
THE FINAL STEP IN YOUR JOURNEY
TO BECOME A LAWYER, THE OATH OF
ADMISSION.

YOU READY FOR IT?

THINK YOU'LL MAKE IT?

OKAY.

RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND, PLEASE.

I DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR: I WILL
SUPPORT THE CONSTITUTION OF THE
UNITED STATES AND THE
CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE
FLORIDA;

I WILL MAINTAIN THE RESPECT DUE
TO COURTS OF JUSTICE AND
JUDICIAL OFFICERS;

I WILL NOT COUNSEL OR MAINTAIN
ANY SUIT OR PROCEEDINGS WHICH
SHALL APPEAR TO ME TO BE UNJUST,
NOR ANY DEFENSE EXCEPT SUCH AS I
BELIEVE TO BE HONESTLY DEBATABLE
UNDER THE LAW OF THE LAND;

I WILL EMPLOY, FOR THE PURPOSE
OF MAINTAINING THE CAUSES
CONFIDED IN ME SUCH MEANS ONLY
AS ARE CONSISTENT WITH TRUTH AND
HONOR, AND WILL NEVER SEEK TO
MISLEAD THE JUDGE OR JURY BY ANY
ARTIFICE OR FALSE STATEMENT OF
FACT OR LAW;

I WILL MAINTAIN THE CONFIDENCE
AND PRESERVE INVIOATE THE
SECRETS OF MY CLIENTS, AND WILL
ACCEPT NO COMPENSATION IN

CONNECTION WITH THEIR BUSINESS
EXCEPT FROM THEM OR WITH THEIR
KNOWLEDGE AND APPROVAL;
TO OPPOSING PARTIES AND THEIR
COUNSEL, I PLEDGE FAIRNESS,
INTEGRITY, AND CIVILITY, NOT
ONLY IN COURT, BUT ALSO IN ALL
WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMUNICATIONS;
I WILL ABSTAIN FROM ALL
OFFENSIVE PERSONALITY AND
ADVANCE NO FACT PREJUDICIAL TO
THE HONOR OR REPUTATION OF A
PARTY OR WITNESS, UNLESS
REQUIRED BY THE JUSTICE OF THE
CAUSE WITH WHICH I AM CHARGED;
I WILL NEVER REJECT, FROM ANY
CONSIDERATION PERSONAL TO
MYSELF, THE CAUSE OF THE
DEFENSELESS OR OPPRESSED, OR
DELAY ANYONE'S CAUSE FOR LUCRE
OR MALICE.
SO HELP ME GOD.
>> CONGRATULATIONS.
[APPLAUSE]
>> YOU MAY BE SEATED.
LET ME BE THE FIRST TO
CONGRATULATE YOU AS YOU START
YOUR NEW CAREERS.
MAY EACH ONE OF YOU ALWAYS BE
FAITHFUL TO THE SOLEMN OATH YOU
HAVE JUST TAKEN.
I HAVE A FEW ANNOUNCEMENTS.
WE ASK THAT THE NEWLY-SWORN
ATTORNEYS REMAIN IN THE
COURTROOM STANDING IN FRONT OF
THE BENCH FOR A GROUP
PHOTOGRAPH.
I CHARGE AS MUCH AS MATT DAMON
FOR MINE.
WE ASK ALL OF OUR OTHER GUESTS
TO PLEASE MAKE ROOM FOR THE NEW
ATTORNEYS TO GATHER HERE IN
FRONT OF THE BENCH.
AND THE NEW ATTORNEYS SHOULD
SIGN YOUR OATH IN THE PRESENCE
OF THE COURT'S DEPUTY CLERKS IN
THE LAWYERS' LOUNGE HERE TODAY.
THE COURT IS NOW ADJOURNED.
WE'LL BE BACK IN A FEW MINUTES
FOR PHOTOGRAPHS.
>> ALL RISE.