## Resolution Regarding Civility in the Courtroom

*Whereas*, the Judiciary of the Eighth Judicial District Court Family Division have determined that candor, courtesy and cooperation are extremely important in Family Division matters;

*Whereas*, permitting any adverse emotional climate to infect the relations between the attorneys and parties in the Courthouse inevitably harms everyone, including the clients, their children and other family members; and

*Whereas*, candor, courtesy and cooperation: (1) facilitate faster, less costly and mutuallyaccepted resolution of disputes; (2) reduce stress for lawyers, staff and clients; (3) reduce waste of judicial time; and (4) generate respect for the court system, the individual attorney and the profession as a whole.

*Now, Therefore*, we, the Judiciary of the Eighth Judicial District Court Family Division, agree that the following rules of professional cooperation shall be enforced in every courtroom in the Family Division:

- 1. Attorneys and litigants shall, at all times, demonstrate respect for the opposing attorney, litigant and the Court;
- 2. Attorneys and litigants shall be adequately prepared for each court appearance;
- 3. Attorneys and litigants shall permit the opposing party to present their arguments without interruption (no objections during argument);
- 4. Attorneys and litigants shall refrain from excessively repeating facts or arguments;
- 5. Attorneys and litigants shall refrain from personal attacks on the opposing attorney or litigant;
- 6. Attorneys and litigants shall address all comments to the Judge and not to the opposing attorney or litigant;
- 7. Attorneys and litigants shall maintain control over their emotions;

## Dated this 27th day of April, 2015

mola Voy, Dept. A Judge Judge Rebecca Burto usi Judge Robert W. Teuton, Dept. D Presiding Judge Charles J. Hoskin. Judge Denise L. Gentile, Dept. Dept. E Judge Arthur Ritchie, Dept. H Judge Cheryl B. Moss, Dept. I G. Hus what). Judge Jennifer L. Elliott, Dept. L Judge Cynthia N. Gjuljani, Dept. K Judge William Potter, Dept. M Judge Mathew P. Harter, Dept. Judge Frank P. Sullivan, Dept. O Judge Sandra L. Pomrenze, Dept. P Judge Bill Henderson, Dept. R Judge Bryce C. Duckworth, Dept. Judge Vincent Ochoa, Dept. S 12 Judge Lisa M. Brown, Dept. T

