



Statement of Client's Rights

(As adopted by the Administrative Board of the Courts)

- 1. You are entitled to be treated with courtesy and consideration at all times by your lawyer and the other lawyers and personnel in your lawyer's office.*
- 2. You are entitled to an attorney capable of handling your legal matter competently and diligently, in accordance with the highest standards of the profession. If you are not satisfied with how your matter is being handled, you have the right to withdraw from the attorney-client relationship at any time (court approval may be required in some matters and your attorney may have a claim against you for the value of services rendered to you up to the point of discharge).*
- 3. You are entitled to your lawyer's independent professional judgment and undivided loyalty uncompromised by conflicts of interest.*
- 4. You are entitled to be charged a reasonable fee and to have your lawyer explain at the outset how the fee will be computed and the manner and frequency of billing. You are entitled to request and receive a written itemized bill from your attorney at reasonable intervals. You may refuse to enter into any fee arrangement that you find unsatisfactory. In the event of a fee dispute, you may have the right to seek arbitration; your attorney will provide you with the necessary information regarding arbitration in the event of a fee dispute, or upon your request.*
- 5. You are entitled to have your questions and concerns addressed in a prompt manner and to have your telephone calls returned promptly.*
- 6. You are entitled to be kept informed as to the status of your matter and to request and receive copies of papers. You are entitled to sufficient information to allow you to participate meaningfully in the development of your matter.*
- 7. You are entitled to have your legitimate objectives respected by your attorney, including whether or not to settle your matter (court approval of a settlement is required in some matters).*
- 8. You have the right to privacy in your dealings with your lawyer and to have your secrets and confidences preserved to the extent permitted by law.*
- 9. You are entitled to have your attorney conduct himself or herself ethically in accordance with the Code of Professional Responsibility.*
- 10. You may not be refused representation on the basis of race, creed, color, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin or disability.*



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Lawyer's Professionalism Creed

To my clients, I offer competence, faithfulness, diligence, and good judgment. I will represent you as I would want to be represented and to be worthy of your trust.

To the opposing parties and their counsel, I offer fairness, integrity, and civility. I will seek reconciliation and, if we fail to achieve it, I will make our dispute a dignified one.

To the courts, and other tribunals, and to those who assist them, I offer respect, truthfulness, and courtesy. I will strive to bring honor to the search for justice.

To the profession, I offer assistance. I will strive to keep our profession a high calling in the spirit of pro bono and public service.

To the public, I offer service. I will strive to improve the law and our legal system, serving all equally, and to seek justice through the representation of my clients.

The NC Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism's Lawyer's Professionalism Creed is modeled after The Lawyer's Creed in the state of GA.

