



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

CHOOSE CIVILITY RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the right to self-expression and free speech are fundamental rights and essential in preserving democratic values and promoting the common good;

WHEREAS, a robust exchange of ideas is necessary to the health of society as well as in the discourse of public and private organizations working for the common good;

WHEREAS, civility in discourse contributes to the well-being of an organization, underscores its general health and wellness and depends in great part on how an organization's members treat each other;

WHEREAS, embracing civility allows diverse and impassioned opinions and viewpoints to be considered with respect and due consideration in an inclusive and respectful environment;

WHEREAS, concern for the common good and well-being of all citizens is one of the highest virtues in a democratic society;

WHEREAS, every citizen is responsible for demonstrating such behavior; and,

WHEREAS, the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement promotes civil behavior between and by its members, Board of Directors, staff, and partners:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS

In order to exhibit and encourage the kinds of personal qualities that are emblematic of a civil society—gratitude, humility, openness, passion for service to others, propriety, kindness, caring, sense of duty, and a commitment to doing what is right in the NACOLE community—, all persons participating in NACOLE activities should strive to:

1. Treat everyone courteously
2. Listen to others respectfully
3. Give open minded consideration to all viewpoints
4. Focus on the issues and avoid personalizing debate
5. Embrace respectful disagreement and dissent as democratic rights that are inherent components of an inclusive public process and tools for forging sound decisions

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NACOLE Board of Directors, committees, staff, contractors, and members shall strive to promote the use of, and adherence to, these guidelines in all NACOLE activities.

Adopted and approved this 1st day of February 2015.