WHEREAS, pursuant to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court "Code of Civility,":

"18. A lawyer should strive to protect the dignity and independence of the judiciary, particularly from unjust criticism and attack."; and,

WHEREAS, in an article published in the Butler Eagle on June 20, 2013, entitled "Eckstein Attacks Doerr, Pinkerton," Butler County Commissioner James Eckstein is quoted as saying:

"I don't have a crystal ball, but I have a theory of just how far this county government has regressed into an unethical abyss."; and,

WHEREAS, the Butler Eagle reports that Mr. Eckstein made the following claim:

"Eckstein claimed Pinkerton's real motivation for pushing for the elimination of the two part-time jury commissioners was to enable county President Judge Thomas Doerr to taint the jury pool for lawsuits filed against Eckstein."; and,

WHEREAS, President Judge Doerr has commented:

"The problem with his comments is they're illegitimately undermining the credibility of the court system of Butler County, and the people of Butler County deserve better."; and,

WHEREAS, said comments by James Eckstein, if accurately reported, undermine the credibility of the Court of Common Pleas of Butler County, Pennsylvania, the Judges of the Butler County Court of Common Pleas, and by association, upon the lawyers and others who participate in the judicial system; and,
WHEREAS, pursuant to the requirements of the "Code of Civility," the lawyers of the Butler County Bar Association have a duty to "strive to protect the dignity and independence of the judiciary, particularly from unjust criticism and attack."

WHEREAS, the foregoing comments by Mr. Eckstein constitute unjust criticism and attack upon the judiciary.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby RESOLVED by the Butler County Bar Association as follows:

1 A Committee of three (3) lawyers, appointed by the President, should immediately undertake to ascertain whether or not Mr. Eckstein made these statements appearing in the press.

2 In the event that such statements were made, the aforesaid Committee shall thereafter ascertain whether Mr. Eckstein will voluntarily withdraw and publicly repudiate these statements.

3 The Committee shall report its findings to the Bar Association membership as a whole.

4 In the event that the Committee confirms that these statements were made by Mr. Eckstein, then it shall proceed, with the advice and consent of the President and Executive Committee, to prepare an appropriate public response to the comments and in defense of the Judge and the Court system in such media as the President and Executive Committee determines.

The foregoing Resolution was approved this 27th day of June, 2013, by a vote of 31 members voting in the affirmative, and 0 members voting in opposition.

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Association President          Association Secretary