

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK

ADOPTING A CIVILITY PLEDGE

WHEREAS, the Village of Orland Park affirms that robust debate and the exchange of diverse ideas are essential to democratic self-governance; and,

WHEREAS, the Village President and Board of Trustees, as elected officials of the Village of Orland Park, recognize the importance of engaging in public discourse with civility, honesty, and mutual respect; and,

WHEREAS, the Illinois Municipal League (IML) has adopted a Civility Pledge promoting these core values; and,

WHEREAS, in 2011, the United States Conference of Mayors adopted a similar Civility Accord; and,

WHEREAS, the Village President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Orland Park commit to building a more civil society in which all individuals are respected and public and political discourse is directed toward improving our community rather than diminishing others; and,

WHEREAS, the Village President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Orland Park believe that because local elected officials are the elected leaders closest to the people, restoration of civility must begin with us. We are uniquely positioned to lead by example in restoring civility in public life; and,

WHEREAS, in order to formally declare this commitment to civil discourse and to express concern for the common good and wellbeing of all residents of the Village of Orland Park, the Village President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Orland Park hereby adopt this Resolution in the best interests of the Village and its residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Village President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Orland Park as follows:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals shall be and are hereby incorporated as findings of fact as if said recitals were fully set forth herein.

Section 2. The Village President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Orland Park agree to the following pledge:

In the interest of civility, I pledge:

- To promote civility by listening respectfully, recognizing our shared goal of improving the community, and acknowledging that we may differ on the means to achieve it.
- A commitment to the following principles for civil discourse:
 - Respect the right of all individuals to hold differing opinions.
 - Avoid rhetoric intended to humiliate, delegitimize, devalue or question the patriotism of those whom we disagree.
 - Strive to understand other perspectives.
 - Choose words thoughtfully.
 - Speak truthfully without accusation or distortion.

- Speak out against violence, prejudice, and incivility in all of their forms, whenever and wherever they occur.
- To demonstrate and encourage qualities that support a civil society, including gratitude, humility, openness, public service, propriety, kindness, compassion, faith, a sense of duty, and a commitment to doing what is right.

Section 3. The elected and appointed officials of the Village of Orland Park are asked to sign the Civility Pledge and adhere to it during all public meetings and in all official actions.

Section 4. A signed copy of this Resolution is to be displayed in a prominent area of Village Hall.