

# WORKING WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES: NOT WORKING AGAINST YOUR ENEMIES

Christopher Palazola

Texas Medical Board

Jon Porter

McDonald, Mackay, Porter & Weitz, LLP

## **Top Ten List Lack of Civility That Annoys State Attorneys:**

Number 1: Revealing the identity of patients or alleged victims, including minors, in publicly filed documents. This is always wrong but is particularly bad when done to intimidate or embarrass the witness.

## **Top Ten List Lack of Civility That Drives Defense Bar Crazy:**

Number 1: Lying or the perception of a lie

## **Top Ten List Lack of Civility That Annoys State Attorneys:**

Number 2: Sending a signed Order or other document to the Board without indicating that changes were made to the document.

### **Top Ten List Lack of Civility That Drives Defense Bar Crazy:**

Number 2: Telling a client the adverse action “isn’t that big of a deal” or “you got lucky” or “it’s just a speeding ticket”

### **Top Ten List Lack of Civility That Annoys State Attorneys:**

Number 3: Ambushing a witness with irrelevant material from social media – especially where statements were asked for and not turned over in discovery. Often these are social media posts or pictures deliberately taken out of context and that have no relevance to the matter in dispute.

Also available as part of the eCourse

[First Friday Ethics \(January 2024\)](#)

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the  
2024 First Friday Ethics (January 2024) session

"Working with Your Colleagues: Not Working Against Your Enemies (Replay)"