

Delaware Tax Institute 2019: Tax Developments and Planning: Where Are We After TCJA?

Friday, December 9, 2019

3:45 – 4:45 p.m. Session - "Maintaining Civility and Fidelity to Facts, Law and Procedure in a Changing Environment: What Lawmakers, the Media and Others Could Learn From the Ethical Practice of Law"

Luke Mette, Chief Disciplinary Counsel, Office of Disciplinary Counsel, Delaware Supreme Court

Outline for Session:

- Explore in some detail the Principles of Professionalism and the Rules of Professional Conduct applicable to the practice of law in Delaware, in the context of
 - Civility
 - Limits of zealous advocacy
 - Fidelity to facts, law and procedure
 - Competence
 - Diligence
 - Candor, honesty and trustworthiness
 - While still advocating for changes in the law
 - Good faith
 - Law's ambiguities and potential for change
- Discuss why these principles and rules are so important for the practice of law
 - Integrity of the adjudicative process
 - Public confidence in the legal system
- Discuss how other professions, and the political discourse in our country, might benefit from adhering to similar principles and rules of engagement (and the importance of doing so)
 - Importance of laws and the evolution of laws in our democracy
 - Importance of the integrity of, and public confidence in, the process by which laws are enacted, enforced, amended and understood
 - How our political discourse might benefit if the media, politicians and an engaged citizenry adhered to the principles of professionalism and rules of professional conduct applicable to lawyers
 - Civility
 - Fidelity to facts, laws and procedure
 - While still advocating for changes in the law