

MEMORANDUM

March 30, 2020

To: Members of the North Carolina Advocates for Justice and the North Carolina Association of Defense Attorneys

From: Vernon Sumwalt, president of the North Carolina Advocates for Justice, and F. Lachicotte Zemp Jr., president of the North Carolina Association of Defense Attorneys

As we seek to continue our work on behalf of our clients during these unprecedented and uncertain times, let's remember that we have the opportunity and the duty to exemplify professionalism and embody civility even when, or perhaps especially when, facing extraordinary circumstances. Providing our clients with the representation they deserve in the days and weeks ahead will require us to adapt in a number of ways. We have already begun to employ technological solutions that will help to keep our cases moving forward.

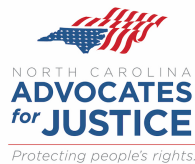
In light of recent orders from Chief Justice Beasley and Gov. Cooper, many of us are working cooperatively and professionally to accommodate some of the uncertainties around scheduling, deadlines, hearings, and trials. Working together will not only help to keep the justice system moving forward, but ultimately will benefit our clients in getting our cases managed and handled professionally and as expediently as current circumstances allow.

Once we are beyond the present crisis, we will want to be able to look back with pride on how we treated one another. We will also want to be able to demonstrate to the courts that we each did our part to help support the judicial system and the integrity of the process.

We hope your circle of family and friends remain healthy and well.

Sincerely,

Vernon Sumwalt
NCAJ President



F. Lachicotte Zemp Jr.
NCADA President



PROTECTING PEOPLE'S RIGHTS.

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