

CARDOZO LAW

BENJAMIN N. CARDOZO SCHOOL OF LAW • YESHIVA UNIVERSITY

PREAMBLE TO STUDENT OATH

Effective attorneys are diligent, thoughtful, and detail-oriented. They are fair, honest, and ethical. They remain calm under pressure and passionate in their advocacy. As lawyers in training, you should embody these professional ideals from this day forward.

These ideals demand respectful and civil conduct toward all colleagues, both within and outside the Cardozo community. Those include your fellow students, professors, administrators, staff, clients, supervisors, adversaries, and members of the court. The relationships you build today will shape your professional reputation throughout your career. Make every day count in developing your professional reputation.

Embrace the profession's commitment to pro bono service, ensuring access to justice for those who cannot afford representation. Whether through full-time public service work or pro bono service, use your legal skills to serve those in need.

Learn and follow the rules and regulations governing our profession in general, and the Cardozo Code of Conduct in particular. If you disagree with any rule, discuss your concerns with the law school administration.

Your conduct in law school must demonstrate the character and fitness required to be admitted to the bar. By taking this oath, you commit to upholding these standards.

Please rise and repeat after me:

STUDENT OATH

As I begin studying law at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, I acknowledge the privileges and responsibilities of joining this academic and professional community, and I promise to act in accordance with the high standards expected of me as a legal professional.

Accordingly, I will conduct myself with honesty and integrity at all times. I commit myself to service without prejudice, and the diligent performance of my duties with the utmost good faith. I further commit myself to the professional's special responsibilities to the public, including promoting justice and pursuing truth and fairness.

I pledge to uphold the rule of law and defend the principles enshrined in the United States Constitution.

This pledge I take freely and upon my honor.