

# Play by the Golden Rule

## IAC Ethics Mini-Exercise

We all remember the Golden Rule, do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Just common sense ethics. Right?

### 5 Rules to abide by

- Be trustworthy
- Be courteous and respectful
- Be honest
- Be ethical
- Act with integrity

Are trustworthiness and honesty the same thing? How are they different?

### Trustworthy

We earn that title over time or by virtue of a position (maybe). It's about fulfilling expectations, dependability, and reliability. When you hear the phrase: stand tall and be counted for your actions, what does that mean? We must be responsible for our actions and the consequences - good or bad.

### Honesty

Open and transparent. It's a facet of moral character, such attributes would include truthfulness, straightforwardness of conduct, loyalty, and sincerity.

Can anyone give some examples on how these two apply to county government?

### Courteous and respectful

Consideration toward others. Respectful is a positive feeling that builds over time.

Discussion:

How easily can this be lost? Does it take a big issue? No, it can be lost with one stupid or inconsiderate action. How hard it is to gain that respect back?

### Be Ethical

What does that mean?

Acting within certain moral codes in accordance with generally accepted codes of conduct.

What are some examples of ethics that as county elected officials and/or employees we adhere to?

### Act with Integrity

Integrity is acting with honor and truthfulness. Doing what is right even if others discourage you to do wrong or when no one is there to tell you to encourage you to do the right thing.

What are some examples on how we can act with integrity in county government?

When we act with professionalism and obey these simple Golden Rules we will enjoy a wonderful, professional, and rewarding career in county government.