

Attorney First Amendment Rights

When the first amendment was conceived, a free society was born, because the right to petition and criticize the government became sacrosanct.

When an attorney asked the Supreme Court to use these freedoms as an excuse to allow attorneys to advertise, a very dangerous mistake was made.

Attorneys were forced to balance their disdain for commercial exploitation of our profession with the fear that their practice would die a slow death, if they didn't compete with marketing.

The Supreme Court should have recognized that an officer of the Court is perceived by the public as an integral part of our system of justice, and that the public's confidence would be disemboweled if those who pledge to uphold the constitution abuse freedom for personal gain.

Some attorney advertising has become demeaning, and evolved far beyond anything the authors of the first amendment could ever envisioned.

We should demand respect and honor from those who chose to use this freedom, and we have the right to insist that it is never abused in a way that degrades the very profession entrusted with the responsibility of preserving it.