**Professionalism and Ethics in Corrections Activity 1**

Use the questions and scenarios below to guide a discussion about professionalism and ethics. Select a student to act as a “scribe” and record the class’s responses. The “scribe” should divide the writing area into two columns: professional and unprofessional.

*Instructor: Tell the students to think of someone they know or have dealt with that they thought was a professional – this could be the bank teller at their bank, or even the checker at a local grocery store.*

Discussion questions:

1. List as many “professional” characteristics as possible.
2. Based on your experience, which of these characteristics were exhibited by the professionals you encountered?
3. Did the type of service they provided make a difference in their level of professionalism? (Examples: Doctor vs. sales clerk, Bank teller vs. car salesman, etc.)

*Instructor: Now, think of a time you encountered someone you considered unprofessional and what made that person unprofessional – was it the way they talked to you, was it their attitude?*

Discussion questions:

1. List as many “unprofessional” characteristics as possible.
2. Based on your experience, which of these characteristics were exhibited by the person you considered to be unprofessional?
3. What could that person have done to improve their professionalism?

*Instructor: Now, think of how you want to be treated in the workplace. What does working in a professional correctional environment mean to you? What kinds of things can you or your supervisor do to make an environment more professional?*