Examples of Ground Rules for Juror Conduct During Meetings

The following are some examplesofground rules that have been shared with CGJA by grand juries.

* Everyone participates; no one dominates
* Be on time for meetings and stay until the meeting is concluded
* Be prepared for the meeting or other activity (such as an interview, site visit, etc.)
* The foreperson or chair controls the floor; raise your hand to be acknowledged
* One speaker at a time; don’t interrupt
* Listen to understand others’ points of view
* No sidebar conversations
* No texting
* Keep an open mind
* Keep your comments brief
* Contribute constructively to discussions
* Speak respectfully
* Speak honestly and share all relevant information
* Focus on the issue at hand
* Treat grand jury members with mutual respect, trust, and dignity; assume they are acting in the best interest of grand jury business
* Never undermine other grand jury members, either directly or indirectly
* Strive for consensus:
* Work to resolve disagreements
* Listen to both sides
* Be prepared to accept and support resolution
* Ask for and give help; welcome help when offered
* Be inclusive, and avoid forming cliques
* Never bully, attempt to intimidate, or try to out-talk another juror
* Stick to the agenda
* At the end of each meeting, evaluate it (what worked/suggestions for improvement)