

From: Dan Fetsco
To: Chase Thiel
Re: Daniels Fund Faculty Luncheon; short summary
Date: May 5, 2021

At the beginning of the semester, I introduced the Daniels Ethical Principles to my students and then quizzed them over some of the principles as part of weekly quizzes that were already planned in my course. After studying the principles, I then had my students answer three hypothetical scenarios involving the criminal justice system by using the principles.

One scenario involved a police officer who is offered a free meal at a restaurant. The second hypothetical is based upon an experience that happened to me as prosecutor when I was confronted with a difficult charging decision. The third prompt involved three short scenarios in a prison where a hypothetical correctional officer is confronted with an ethically challenging issue in each. With each assignment, the students demonstrated a thorough understanding of the Daniels Principles, and produced some excellent answers. Depending on the hypothetical, there were some very interesting differences in the responses. However, in those cases, there was not necessarily a right or wrong answer to the dilemma, rather it was a case of a difference in prosecutorial philosophy or community relations.