

Sullivan & LeShane

PUBLIC RELATIONS, INC.

As we celebrate America's 250th birthday, my wish is that we remain true to the principles that have guided this nation since its founding—freedom, opportunity, personal responsibility, service to others, and the belief that every person has a voice worth hearing.

I also hope we rediscover something that seems increasingly rare today: the ability to disagree without being disagreeable.

Throughout my career, I have worked with business leaders, educators, healthcare professionals, public officials, nonprofit organizations, and community advocates. While their perspectives often differ, most want the same things: opportunity for their families, safe and vibrant communities, and confidence that tomorrow can be better than today.

Too often, disagreements become personal and conversations become contests. I believe we can do better.

Civility does not require us to abandon our beliefs. It requires us to respect the dignity of others, listen with an open mind, and recognize that no one has a monopoly on good ideas.

America has never been strongest when everyone agreed. It has been strongest when people with differing opinions came together around a common purpose and a shared commitment to a better future.

On this historic birthday, my wish is simple: may we preserve the freedoms that define America, embrace the values that sustain it, and ensure the next generation is ready to carry the promise of this nation forward.

Happy Birthday, America. Here's hoping the principles we fought for 250 years ago thrive for another 250 years.

Respectfully,

Patricia “Paddi” LeShane, CEO