The process for investigating and resolving potential rules violations is outlined in Article 19 of the NCAA Manual. The manual identifies specific obligations of all parties in an investigation, including the enforcement staff, the member school under investigation and any involved individuals. For example, parties are required to cooperate in an investigation and to keep certain information about the investigation confidential.

Investigations are not always pleasant, but following this model is most likely to promote fair play and protect the integrity of intercollegiate athletics.

Member-created rules support F.A.C.T. investigations. That is, investigations characterized by the following mutual commitments:

- **Fair** – Investigations should be an objective effort by all parties to find the truth.
- **Accurate** – All parties have the responsibility to provide correct, complete and detailed information about potential violations.
- **Collaborative** – The best investigations are cooperative efforts between the parties.
- **Timely** – Certain delays are unavoidable, but investigations should be resolved as quickly as possible without compromising accuracy or thoroughness.