Proclamation

PRO BONO CELEBRATION DAY

WHEREAS, the Buncombe County Bar's annual pro bono celebration highlights the amazing free legal work performed by hundreds of lawyers, paralegals, and volunteers across the County; and

WHEREAS, the Bar's pro bono committee works to honor the tremendous impact lawyers make in our community, recruit and train new pro bono volunteers, and create partnerships that form the basis of the private bar's most successful pro bono efforts; and

WHEREAS, every year thousands of citizens within Buncombe County benefit from the free legal work provided by members of the Buncombe County Bar; and

WHEREAS, over the last year over 300 volunteer attorneys provided over 3,343 hours of free legal work estimated to be worth over \$835,750; and

WHEREAS, the following attorneys and pro bono projects have been recognized this year by the Buncombe County Bar for their exceptional pro bono work:

Barrett McFatter – Young Lawyer Pro Bono Award; Julie Northup and Vann Vogel – Emeritus Lawyer Pro Bono Award; Unemployment Insurance Benefit Project – Collaborative Legal Project Pro Bono Award; Jean Lee – Outstanding Lawyer of the Year Pro Bono Award; and William Christy – Lifetime Achievement Pro Bono Award; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Buncombe County are better off when justice is not limited to only those who can pay for an attorney.

NOW THEREFORE, the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim May 12, 2021 as

PRO BONO CELEBRATION DAY

in Buncombe County and call upon all Buncombe County residents to recognize and appreciate the dedication and contributions of these legal professionals who enhance the lives of our citizens by providing free legal work to those most in need throughout our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County of Buncombe to be affixed this 4th day of May, 2021.

Brownie Newman

Chairman, Buncombe County Board of Commissioners