



**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION  
MEMORIALIZING THE LATE JOHN L. APOSTOLOU**

WHEREAS, the Honorable John Louis Apostolou departed this life on August 21, 2017, at his home in Key West, Florida; and

WHEREAS, Judge Apostolou was 87 at the time of his death having been born on August 16, 1930, in Roanoke, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Judge Apostolou attended the public schools of Roanoke, Virginia, graduating Jefferson High School in 1948; and

WHEREAS, Judge Apostolou received his bachelor's degree from the College of William & Mary; and

WHEREAS, Judge Apostolou honorably served our nation as a Captain in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict; and

WHEREAS, Judge Apostolou attended the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at the College of William & Mary, graduating in 1957; and

WHEREAS, after passing the Bar, Judge Apostolou returned to the Roanoke Valley to practice law as an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney for the City of Roanoke; and

WHEREAS, thereafter, Judge Apostolou began a very successful private practice of law, becoming a founding member of the law firm of Apostolou & Place which grew in

subsequent years to the law firm of Apostolou, Place & Thomas and finally the law firm of Apostolou, Place, Thomas & Prillaman; and

WHEREAS, Judge Apostolou served as a substitute judge in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his legal gifts and aptitude, Judge Apostolou was appointed to the General District Court bench for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District in 1985, where he served until he retired in 1996; and

WHEREAS, while on the bench, Judge Apostolou began the “guilty plea line” sometimes referred as the “blue light special” which was a special method of stream-lining the docket, a method used to this day throughout the 23<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District Courts; and

WHEREAS, Judge Apostolou presided with fairness, courtesy, practicality, knowledge, and what some call “common sense justice”; and

WHEREAS, Judge Apostolou is survived by his loving wife of 43 years, Brenda Page Apostolou, by his children, Cynthia Apostolou Cox, Laura Apostolou Balzer and Jay Wilmer, by their spouses, and by four grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Judge Apostolou was a member of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church of Roanoke, Virginia,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Roanoke Bar Association does hereby express its deepest sympathy to the family of Judge Apostolou, and recognizes his distinguished career and service to the Commonwealth of Virginia;

And

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be furnished to the Circuit Courts of the City and County of Roanoke and the City of Salem and the United

States District Court for the Western District of Virginia, Roanoke Division, with motions that the resolution be spread upon the permanent common law order books of those courts; and that copies of this resolution be furnished to the family of Judge Apostolou as an expression of sympathy and esteem.

GIVEN under the hands of the president and secretary of the Roanoke Bar Association and the seal of the Association this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2017.

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Kevin W. Holt, President,  
Roanoke Bar Association

TESTE:

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Patrick J. Kenney, Secretary,  
Roanoke Bar Association