MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION THE HONORABLE JAMES W. JACKSON

We are here to pay our respects to the memory of our deceased colleague and friend, The Honorable James W. Jackson, who passed away on August 24, 1999.

Jim was born in Rockford, Michigan, on November 30, 1918, the son of the late U. S. Senator and Mrs. Samuel D. Jackson. He served as President of his 1937 North Side High School class. In high school, he was an outstanding public speaker and member of North Side's debate team.

After high school, Jim went to Northwestern University. He received his bachelor of arts degree (<u>cum laude</u>) in 1941 and his law degree from Indiana University School of Law in 1943. He was a member of Phi Delta Phi and Phi Eta Sigma honorary and professional fraternities.

Jim was a World War II veteran. After receiving his law degree, he served in the army as a Second Lieutenant and was stationed in the South Pacific.

After the war, he began practicing law with his father in 1946. Senator Jackson was his mentor in the law until his untimely death in 1951. Jim continued his private law practice with Jackson, Parrish, Eggers and Larson and its successors until his appointment to the bench. In 1975, he was appointed a judge in the Allen County Superior Court. Over the years, Jim sat in all divisions of the Superior Court and was Senior Judge in the Criminal Division when he retired from the bench in 1988. He ended his long legal career as Of Counsel with the firm of Beers Mallers Backs & Salin, LLP.

Jim was a long time member of the Allen County Bar Association, serving as a board member and its Treasurer. He also was a member of the Indiana State Bar Association and the American Bar Association. Jim was a member of the Indiana Judges Association and a board member of the Indiana Judicial Conference.

Jim was a charter member of the Parrish Post, American Legion, and Suedhoff Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He was also a member of the Fort Wayne Valley Scottish Rite and its York Rite Bodies. He was a Rotarian, a member of the Chamber of Commerce and a circuit speaker for the Indiana Speakers Conference. He was a past President of the Fort Wayne Country Club, the Men's Quest and Caldron Clubs. He was a trustee of the Helen M. Quimby Foundation and a former board member of the Child Guidance Center. Jim was director and general counsel of First Federal Savings & Loan Association for more than 20 years.

Jim was also an outstanding television moderator. In the 1950's he hosted with Orvas Beers the television show "What's the Law" which featured guests who discussed legal issues and procedures that applied to the average citizen. From 1958 to 1963, he was moderator of a college quiz bowl program "Hi-Quiz" which drew him national attention.

While Jim practiced law for over fifty years, he was proudest of his twelve years on the bench. In 1986, Community Consultants named Jim "Man of the Year". Jim earned this honor for his ability to judge with an open mind and without prejudice. He judged all, whether rich or poor, white or black, fairly and equally. In 1988, he received a humanitarian award.

Judge Jackson was first and always a gentleman. His courtesy, his bearing, and the tone of his speaking voice all combined to give him "presence." He treated all people with dignity and civility. As judge, he recognized that all who stood before him were people with first and last names and were entitled to common courtesy, even those being sentenced for felony convictions.

Although courteous and respectful, this gentleman judge was a highly respected jurist who was as tough as needed. Jim believed that the community was entitled to protection and to have its laws enforced. He also believed that it was a never-ending battle between rehabilitation and punishment and the juvenile system must balance the community's protection with the rehabilitation of the offender. He knew the law and followed it, even when his decision was personally difficult.

Jim considered his greatest strength was his exuberance for life. He enjoyed presiding over weddings and adoptions. His interests included reading, classical music and collecting paintings.

Jim was a 65-year member of First Presbyterian Church where he served as an elder, deacon and trustee.

Jim married Jeanne Baribeau, his beloved "Mrs. Jackson" as he called her. He and his wife had two children, Dr. James W. Jackson, Jr. of Madison, Indiana, and Cynthia Anne Roethele of Fort Wayne. In addition to his wife and children, Judge Jackson was survived by a brother, Robert Jackson, of Santa Cruz, California, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Hon. James W. Jackson will be remembered by his friends and colleagues as an outstanding judge. He will be missed as a practitioner, a jurist and as a friend.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Allen County Bar Association give public expression of sorrow upon this, the occasion of the remembrance of the life and death of Hon. James W. Jackson;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be unanimously adopted by those present at this assembly upon this occasion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted by the Office by the Allen County Bar Association to the members of the Jackson Family; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be spread of record in the permanent records of the Courts of Allen County, Indiana, to evidence the respect and admiration of the members of the Bench and Bar for their departed friend, Hon. James W. Jackson.

Dated this 23rd day of August, 2000.

THE ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

By:

Yvette Caff Kleven, President-Elect

Bv:

Honorable Stanley A. Levine

Allen Superior Court