

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Richard T. Doermer

WHEREAS, we are here to pay our respects to the memory of our deceased colleague and friend, Richard T. Doermer, who passed away on October 11, 2010, at the age of 87.

WHEREAS, Dick was born December 12, 1922, in Fort Wayne, to a gracious and charming mother of whom it was said that she had the sparkle of Ireland in her smile, and to a German father who was strict and diligent but fair and honest.

WHEREAS, Dick was a life-long resident of Fort Wayne, and a life-long member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. He graduated from South Side High School in 1940, where he was an honor student, a member of the varsity tennis team, and a member of the varsity basketball team that went to the state finals in Dick's senior year.

WHEREAS, Dick received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Notre Dame in 1944, where he earned a monogram letter in tennis. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served in the Pacific theater where he was commissioned an Ensign. He was honorably discharged in 1946 as a Lieutenant, Junior Grade.

WHEREAS, Dick graduated from Cornell University Law School in 1949, and began practicing law as an associate with the firm of Campbell, Livingston, Teeple and Dildine. In 1952 he and Tom Gallmeyer joined with Sol Rothberg to form Rothberg Gallmeyer & Doermer.

WHEREAS, Dick began his long and illustrious career in banking in 1956, when he joined Dime Trust and Savings Bank as Director and Executive Vice President. Becoming President in 1957, he changed the name to Indiana Bank and Trust Company. From assets of \$9.8 million in 1956, Dick grew the bank to assets of \$345 million in 1982. Through acquisitions, mergers and affiliations, including a merger with People's Trust Bank in the 1980's, the bank grew to become Summit Bank (Summcorp). After Summcorp became an affiliate of NBD Bancorp in 1992, Dick remained Chairman and CEO of NBD Fort Wayne until he retired in December of 1993.

WHEREAS, during his career, Dick also served on the boards of directors of nine other Indiana banks and more than a dozen other business boards, including Rea Magnet Wire Co., Journal Gazette Publishing Company, Our Sunday Visitor, and Kelly Box and Packaging Corporation. Dick was also Vice Chairman of Avis Industrial Corporation of Upland, Indiana, which, in partnership with Leland Boren he grew in the 1980's to a holding company

owning twelve diverse manufacturing facilities located in seven U.S. states, Canada, and England.

WHEREAS, in addition to his professional life, Dick was active in the non-profit and public service arenas – work that earned him one of the state’s highest honors and other awards. In 2004, he was awarded the rank and title of Sagamore of the Wabash by Governor Joseph Kernan for his 29 years of service as a member of the board of the Public Employees’ Retirement Fund. He was a director of the United Way and also served as General Chairman of its annual fund campaign. In 2009, Dick was honored with the United Way’s Bill Latz Award for Leadership. The award is given periodically to volunteers who have provided extraordinary leadership and service to the United Way. Dick also served on the boards of the Taxpayers Research Association, the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne, and the Vera Bradley Foundation for Breast Cancer Research. He also served as a member of the Finance Council and Investment Committee for the Catholic Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

WHEREAS, Dick was a friend to education. He served on the Fort Wayne Community Schools Board, and on the Board of Trustees at the University of St. Francis. He was a member of the University of Notre Dame Mendoza College of Business Advisory Council and a supporter of his alma mater. Dick endowed the Doermer Family MBA Career Development Center, which opened in 1992, and also underwrote construction of Mendoza’s Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel. Other tangible evidences of the contributions to the community by the Doermer family are the The Doermer School of Business & Management Science at Indiana University - Purdue University Fort Wayne, and The Doermer Family Center for Health Science Education at the University of St. Francis.

WHEREAS, Dick was preceded in death by the love of his life, his wife of 51 years, Mary Louise (McNabb) Doermer (known as “Weezie”), and his brother, John J. Doermer. He is survived by son, Richard D. Doermer, of Chicago, daughter Kathryn D. Callen of Fort Wayne, grandchildren John, Thomas and Mary Callen, Abigail Bergeron and Caitlin Doermer, and step-grandchildren Carson and Claire Powell. He was a loving husband, and a kind and proud father and grandfather.

WHEREAS, Dick Doermer was regarded as scholarly, intelligent, articulate, kind, humorous, interesting, generous and, perhaps above all of these, honest. He was a good friend to people and the community at large.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Allen County Bar Association gives public expression of sorrow upon this, the occasion of the remembrance of the life of Richard T. Doermer.

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 of the Allen County Bar Association to the members of the Doermer family; and

BE IT FURTHER, RESOLVED, that this Resolution be spread of record in the permanent records of the federal and state courts of Allen County, Indiana, to evidence the respect and admiration of the members of the Bench and Bar for their departed friend, Richard T. Doermer.

Dated this 28th day of October, 2011.

THE ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

By: *Shannon K. Reed*
Shannon K. Reed, President

By: *Stanley A. Levine*
*The Honorable Stanley A. Levine
Judge, Allen Superior Court*

