## MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

## BRENT C. VIAN

WHEREAS, we are here to pay our respects to the memory of our deceased colleague and friend, Brent C. Vian, who passed away on December 26, 2014, at the age of 51. Brent is survived by his wife, Deb, and his children Alexander and Emily.

WHEREAS, Brent was born on May 14, 1963 in Fort Wayne, Indiana to Riley and Shari Vian. Brent graduated from Snider High School in Fort Wayne in 1982. He attended Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana and graduated in 1987 with a degree in psychology. Thereafter, he received his law degree in 1991 from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School at Western Michigan University. Brent was also an avid Indiana University sports fan. The interests and friendships he developed at these schools inspired him throughout his lifetime.

WHEREAS, Brent served as an insurance litigator, specializing in trial work in Los Angeles, California. He returned to Fort Wayne in 1996 to practice law in association with Don Clifford and Nikos Nakos. Brent also practiced as an associate for Steele, Ulmschneider, and Malloy. He later began his own practice in association with Nikos Nakos, where he developed an interest and passion in helping private individuals in a variety of civil claims. He particularly enjoyed working in the local family court system helping young men with paternity and other family issues.

WHEREAS, in addition to his commitment to his clients and his professional achievements, Brent was dedicated to his family. Deb Vian was his partner and companion for more than 23 years. During their time in California, Brent and Deb shared a passion for traveling, camping, and spending time at outdoor parks and beaches. Brent was passionate about his hobbies which included an extensive home brewery. He was a gifted cook and his homemade guacamole, gumbo, and chicken & noodles were family favorites. He was also an accomplished photographer.

WHEREAS, in addition to his passion for the law, his wife, IU, and others, Brent's children were always his priority and he spent valuable time with his son and daughter. Brent's eldest child, Alexander, enjoyed reading, chess, many academic challenges and competitions. Brent enjoyed the opportunity to develop these strengths in Alexander. Brent's daughter, Emily, began playing soccer at age four. Brent enjoyed coaching her at St. Charles and attending all of her games on travel squads and on the varsity soccer team at Snider High School. Brent's fondness and appreciation for his family and friends was expressed by his unfailing attendance and participation in his children's activities.

WHEREAS, Brent's character was quietly enthusiastic--especially so when watching or discussing Indiana University basketball teams and their prospects for victory. Brent enjoyed many sports and he excelled at swimming and tennis. Brent had a dry and funny sense of humor. He was a fervent storyteller, especially when sharing his son and daughter's activities and accomplishments. He was looking forward to his children's advanced education when he passed

away at the early age of 51. His loss to his family and colleagues justifies a special recognition and resolution.

WHEREAS, Brent Vian's legal career was remarkable for his compassion, for his professionalism, for his candid and helpful advice to his clients whom he represented.

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 Brent C. Vian.

**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 Vian 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 and colleague, Brent C. Vian.

Dated this 18<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2015 at Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana.

THE ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Bart L. Arnold, President

The Honorable Stanley A. Levine

Judge, Allen Superior Court

Resolution written by Dennis H. Geisleman