## MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

## PAUL B. McNELLIS

WHEREAS, we are here to pay our respects to the memory of our deceased colleague and friend, Paul B. McNellis, who passed away on June 17, 2012, at the age of 74.

WHEREAS, Paul was born on September 28, 1937, in Bridgeport, Connecticut to Bernard and Rosemary McNellis. His family moved to Fort Wayne and he graduated from Central Catholic High School. He attended Holy Cross College in Worcester, Massachusetts and, thereafter, received his law degree from the University of Notre Dame. Paul maintained the friendships he developed at Central Catholic, Holy Cross, and Notre Dame throughout his life time.

WHEREAS, prior to moving to Fort Wayne in 1965 to start his law practice in association with Otto Bonahoom and Howard Chapman, Paul served in the U.S. Air Force in the JAG Corp. in Ankara, Turkey. Upon completing his military service in 1965, he had reached the rank of Captain. Paul's law practice included an enthusiasm and love of the law throughout his career. As a young lawyer, he was a Public Defender on the staff in Allen County. His associations included memberships in the Indiana State Bar Association, the American Bar Association, and the Indiana Trial Lawyers Association. Paul was also a partner in Wyss, McNellis & Myers and, of late, he was of counsel at Carson Boxberger.

WHEREAS, in addition to his commitment to clients and his professional achievements, Paul was committed in generously providing time and services to Easter Seals/ARC. Paul's volunteer and service awards in promoting such disability services in our community were numerous. Paul had an equally passionate interest in assisting his lawyer colleagues through the Lawyer Helping Lawyer program, often accompanying colleagues at the beginning of their Alcoholics Anonymous or other treatment/therapy programs. Paul gave his time generously in these areas due to his compassion and understanding as an encourager and role model.

WHEREAS, Paul, with his wife, Jan, had a passion for history and traveling and he especially enjoyed extended stays overseas to immerse himself with people and cultures that included such trips to Buenos Aires, New Zealand, and other exotic and interesting locations.

WHEREAS, in addition to his passion for the law, traveling, and service, Paul was a dedicated family man who possessed and expressed a deep love for his family. His wife, Janice W. "Jan" McNellis was his partner and companion for 50 years. They had three sons, Paul Jr., Leo, and Vincent "Vinnie" McNellis and two dear granddaughters, Angela and Julia, whose time together he enjoyed immediately before his passing. Paul's kindness and concern for his family and friends was usually expressed in his own enthusiastic and colorful manner, which reflected his deep caring about people he met in all circumstances.

WHEREAS, Paul's character was gregarious, loving, involved with his friends and family throughout his life. In maintaining close ties to his Central Catholic, Holy Cross, and Notre

Dame colleagues and friends, he attended every Notre Dame Law School reunion except this past June, which would have been his 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, due to illness. Many of his friends called him from the reunion to say how much they missed him being there. Paul was also a long-time loyal Chicago Cubs fan. He enjoyed sports and fishing in the pond outside his home as favorite hobbies.

WHEREAS, Paul McNellis's legal career was remarkable for his compassion, for his professionalism, and successful handling of clients' cases and his thoughtful advice.

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 Paul B. McNellis.

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 McNellis 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, Paul B. McNellis.

Dated this 21st day of September 2012.

THE ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Shannon K. Reed, President

The Honorable Stanley A. Levine Judge, Allen Superior Court

