

RESOLUTION OF THE DAUPHIN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

IN MEMORY OF JEFFREY A. ERNICO, ESQUIRE

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGES OF THE COURT, Colleagues at the Bar and friends in attendance:

WHEREAS JEFFREY A. ERNICO was born and raised in Allentown, Pennsylvania, and passed away on September 1, 2025, leaving behind a legacy of faith, service, and unwavering commitment to justice.

Jeff graduated with honors from William Allen High School, earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Pittsburgh, and received his Juris Doctor from Temple University School of Law, where he was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for his leadership of the Temple University Legal Aid Program.

Jeff entered the practice of law with a singular purpose—to help people—and began his career with the Pennsylvania Attorney General’s Office as a Deputy Attorney General, where he was soon appointed to lead the Consumer Protection Office in Harrisburg, dedicating himself to combating fraud and protecting the public from unfair and deceptive practices.

Jeff’s commitment to public service and justice was evident early in his life. As a 19-year-old college student, he boarded a bus from Pennsylvania to Montgomery, Alabama, and joined the historic march from Selma across the Edmund Pettus Bridge, standing alongside thousands of activists under the leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., John Lewis, Hosea Williams, and other civil rights leaders. There, he lent his voice and presence to the struggle for voting rights, a defining moment that shaped his lifelong dedication to fairness, equality, and service. As a reflection of his lifelong commitment, the Pennsylvania Bar Association recognized Jeff with the Louis J. Goffman Award for his leadership in establishing pro bono legal programs throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. So significant was his impact that in 2006, the Pennsylvania Bar Association created the Jeffrey A. Ernico Award, presented by the PBA Legal Services to the Public Committee, recognizing lawyers throughout the Commonwealth whose work demonstrate exceptional pro bono service and commitment to equal justice.

In 1974, Jeff entered private practice, where he remained until his retirement in 2025, focusing on municipal law, business and tax law, and estate planning, and where he was known for his passion and tireless advocacy on behalf of his clients.

Jeff lived life with extraordinary passion and purpose, never approaching any endeavor half-heartedly, bringing energy and determination to both his professional and personal pursuits.

Jeff was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather who loved his family deeply, never missing an opportunity to be present for family dinners, sporting events, recitals, and milestones, and who supported his wife Barbara in her professional pursuits and championed equality and the advancement of women.

Jeff was a man of deep and abiding faith, actively participating in church life and service, and using his legal talents to serve others, including founding and supporting Paxton Ministries in Harrisburg to provide housing and assistance to those in need, and serving for many years on the boards of Teen Challenge and Asbury Communities.

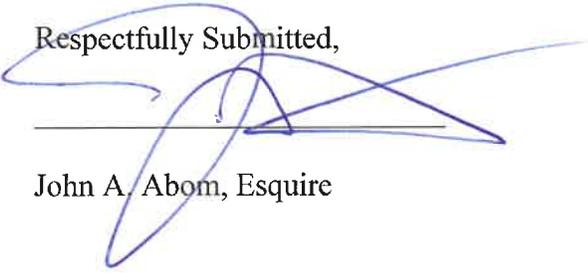
In his later years, Jeff continued his service and leadership in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, contributing to numerous organizations including the Deep Well Project, helping to found a local NAACP chapter, and remaining actively engaged in his community.

Jeff and his wife Barbara expressed their generosity and commitment to education and opportunity through their philanthropic support of Temple University, including the establishment of the Opportunity Fund Scholarship and the underwriting of a Smart Classroom in the College of Public Health.

Jeff is survived by his beloved wife of 54 years, Barbara; his daughter Jennifer Ernico Penston and her husband Jeremy; his son Jared Jeffrey Ernico and his wife Kelly; his cherished grandsons Tyler and Christopher Penston; and his sisters Debra Slivka and Sheri Ernico, along with extended family and many friends and colleagues who were enriched by his life.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Dauphin County Bar Association, in meeting assembled, that it notes with deep sadness the passing of our colleague Jeffrey A. Ernico and expresses its heartfelt sympathy to his beloved family and friends. Be it further resolved that this Resolution be entered into the official minutes of the Dauphin County Bar Association and that a copy be furnished to his family.

Respectfully Submitted,



John A. Abom, Esquire

Dauphin County Bar Association