# MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

## Honoring the Life and Legacy of George F. Shultz, Jr.

**WHEREAS**, George F. Shultz, Jr., of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, passed away peacefully at his home on October 13, 2025, at the age of 74; and

**WHEREAS**, George was born in Harrisburg on April 2, 1951, to the late George F. Shultz, Sr. and Margaret (Simpson) Shultz. He was a graduate of Central Dauphin East High School, Clarion University, Class of 1973, and the University of Bridgeport School of Law; and

**WHEREAS**, George devoted his professional life to the practice of law and to the representation of people who often had the fewest resources and the least ability to advocate for themselves. In early 1981 he began his legal career as an Assistant Public Defender under Robert N. Tarman, Esq., was Promoted to Second Assistant in 1985, and shortly thereafter as First Assistant Public Defender under Scott Arthur Evans., Esq. Appointed by the County Commissioners in 1994, he became Chief Public Defender of Dauphin County, He understood that the promise of justice must extend to every person, regardless of their circumstances or the nature of the accusation against them. He was a fearless and exceptional trial lawyer whose advocacy reflected courage, preparation, compassion, and an unwavering commitment to his clients; and

**WHEREAS**, George possessed a rare ability to connect with people from every walk of life. He never viewed his clients merely as cases or case numbers. He recognized their humanity, treated them with dignity, and earned their trust. His ability to communicate authentically with clients and jurors alike was one of the qualities that made him such an effective advocate and respected member of the bar; and

**WHEREAS**, George's commitment to public service continued after his tenure as Chief Public Defender. He served as the Dauphin County Mental Health Solicitor, continuing his work on behalf of individuals whose circumstances often placed them at the margins of society and who needed a committed advocate; and

**WHEREAS**, George's commitment to service extended beyond the practice of law. He was an active member of St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Alpha Gamma Phi Fraternity of Clarion University, and the former Penn Gardens Lions

Club. He volunteered with the Penn Gardens Baseball program and remained actively engaged in the Harrisburg community throughout his life; and

**WHEREAS**, George was deeply devoted to his wife, Susan, his sister, Florence "Cookie" McWithey, his departed sister, Margaret "Snookie" Whaley, his nieces and nephews, and his great-nieces and great-nephews. He also considered the lawyers, staff, and colleagues with whom he served in the Dauphin County Public Defender's Office to be part of his professional family. He supported and mentored those around him, stood beside them in difficult moments, and remained fiercely loyal to those he loved; and

**WHEREAS**, George was a steadfast friend and a fearless supporter of the people in his life. He was not one to stand on the sidelines when someone he cared about needed help. He believed in his friends, advocated for them, and was willing to stand with them when doing so required courage. He combined a toughness that served him well in the courtroom with a warmth and generosity that made him a treasured friend; and

**WHEREAS**, George brought tremendous joy and fellowship to those around him through his legendary Christmas Eve gatherings, NCAA Final Four parties, and the countless informal moments through which he built friendships and created community; and

**WHEREAS,** George loved to exercise, and that love included training with a close group of friends at the Susquehanna High School track in preparation for the Mid-July Harrisburg Mile. That group included several accomplished athletes in their day, but George was the winner every year among his friends, a fact he made sure to remind us of throughout the remainder of the year. His competitive spirit, his pride in staying fit, and his good-natured need to make sure everyone remembered that he had won made those races a special part of his life and a cherished memory for all of us who knew him.

**WHEREAS**, George F. Shultz, Jr. leaves a legacy that extends far beyond the titles he held. His greatest legacy is found in the people he represented, the colleagues he supported, the friends for whom he stood, and the many lives he touched through a career devoted to justice, service, and the dignity of every person; and

**WHEREAS**, the legal community of Dauphin County has lost not simply an accomplished lawyer and former Chief Public Defender, but a trusted advocate,

colleague, mentor, friend, and member of a professional family to which George gave so much of himself;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Dauphin County Bar Association recognizes and honors the life, service, and enduring legacy of **George F. Shultz, Jr.**, whose career exemplified the highest ideals of advocacy, public service, loyalty, courage, and compassion.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that George's unwavering commitment to representing underserved and under resourced members of our community, his fearless defense of his clients, his exceptional skill as a trial lawyer, and his ability to connect with people from every walk of life shall remain an example to those who follow him in the legal profession.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we recognize George's extraordinary devotion to his family, his colleagues, and his friends, and acknowledge the profound impact his loyalty, friendship, mentorship, and advocacy had upon those fortunate enough to know him.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that our deepest condolences are extended to his wife, Susan M. Shultz; his sister, Florence "Cookie" McWithey; his nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews; and to the many colleagues and friends who mourn his passing.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the memory of George F. Shultz, Jr. shall be preserved not only in the records of this body, but in the continuing work of those who believe, as George did, that every person deserves an advocate willing to stand beside them, speak for them, and fight for justice.

And be it resolved further that copies of this Memorial Resolution be spread upon the records of the Dauphin County Courts and the Dauphin County Bar Association, that the original be filed in the Office of the Prothonotary, and copies transmitted to Mrs. Shultz and family.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Scott Arthur Evans, P.J., Chairman

Hon. Andrew H. Dowling

Hon. Royce L. Morris

Hon. Jeffrey B. Engle

Hon. Courtney K. Powell

Bryan S. Walk, Esquire

Paul J. Kovatch, Esquire

**ADOPTED this** 14th **day of** October **, 2026.**