DAUPHIN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION MEMORIAL RESOLUTION UPON THE DEATH OF JAMES W. EVANS, ESQUIRE

(Adopted January 14, 2009)

The Dauphin County Bar Association, the Legal and Central Pennsylvania communities, his family and his friends have sustained a great loss in the death of James W. Evans on July 27, 2008.

Jim Evans, who was 82, was born on March 27, 1926, in
Taylor, Pennsylvania, the son of Irene and Alvin Evans. He attended
Scranton public schools and graduated in 1943 from West Pittston High
School. He served in the United States Marine Corps in the Pacific
Theater during World War II, from 1944 through 1946. He graduated from
Dickinson College, in 1951, and from the Dickinson School of Law in 1953,
both located in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. At Dickinson College Jim was a
member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity in which he maintained a lifetime
interest. He was chosen for membership in the Raven's Claw, an honorary

mens' society at the college, in which he continued his interest and participation until his passing.

Jim was preceded in death by his first wife Pamela Burr Evans, to whom he was devoted until her untimely death. He is survived by his wife, Joan Arnold Evans, his three sons James W. Evans, Jr., Jeffrey B. Evans, Andrew T. Evans and his daughter Beth E. Maclay. He is also survived by a sister, Nancy Wenzell, six grandchildren, three step-children and four step-grandchildren.

In the time and space available to this committee it is not possible to acknowledge all of Jim's accomplishments and achievements earned during his full personal and professional life. He was an outstanding lawyer who rendered long and devoted service to his clients and to his profession. His tenacity and skill as a trial attorney is well known, and as a young lawyer he tried countless criminal and civil cases. Once established as a seasoned trial lawyer, Jim concentrated on defending medical malpractice claims and he did so successfully. He practiced before many county courts, the Supreme and Superior Courts of Pennsylvana, the Third Circuit Court of Appeals, the Middle District of Pennsylvania Court, and the United States Supreme Court. He was a

partner in the Harrisburg firm of Mette, Evans and Woodside. Among his professional activities were his memberships in the American College of Trial Lawyers, the American Board of Trial Advocates, the Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association, and the American, Pennsylvania and Dauphin County Bar Associations. He was a past-president of the Dauphin County Bar Association and a founding trustee of the Pennsylvania Defense Institute, which in 1997 honored him as the "Defense Lawyer of the Year." He also served on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Disciplinary Hearing Board and was chief counsel for the Pennsylvania Public School Building Authority.

Knowing his busy professional life one wonders how Jim could have found time to do much else, but his service to his community was extraordinary and something to behold. Among many other activities he was a former member, solicitor and president of the Harrisburg School Board during the 1960s and 1970s. In 1969 he was a member of the Harrisburg Charter Commission, which changed the structure of Harrisburg's city government to the strong mayor system. He chaired the Greater Harrisburg Movement from 1971 to 1974 and was the first president of the Harristown Development Corporation. These

organizations began the renaissance which resulted in the rebirth of downtown Harrisburg, which in those years was struggling economically. Among the achievements of which he was most proud was his co-founding in 1964 of Pennsylvania's first community college - the Harrisburg Area Community College - or HACC. The College honored Jim with a Doctorate Degree in Public Service, and in 1991 with the naming of the James W. Evans Physical Education Building. In 1996 he received the Dickinson School of Law Alumni Lifetime Achievement Award, and earlier the American Cancer Society's Humanitarian Award.

Jim Evans set an example for all of us as he immersed himself in the legal profession and in the community. Those of us who knew him well agree that younger attorneys would have benefitted greatly by knowing him and by seeing him in action as a lawyer and a citizen.

Lest it appear that Jim wouldn't have had time for relaxation and having fun, be assured nothing could be further from the truth. He was gregarious, outgoing and enjoyed being with people.

Perhaps Jim's greatest attribute of character during his life was his unwavering loyalty to his friends - whether they be old friends or new friends. His friends were legion and came from all walks of life. Even as

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his health declined he never lost interest in and concern for his friends.

During the last period of his life, when the outcome for him was known, he continued to express his appreciation for the good life he enjoyed and for the support of family and friends during those difficult months.

As we pay tribute to the life of Jim Evans we can conclude by saying that the legal profession has sustained a great loss; that his contributions to his profession and his community will be remembered; and that we have all benefitted by the way in which he used the time that was afforded to him.

Therefore, be it resolved that in the passing of James W.

Evans, Esquire, our association has lost a good friend and colleague who has brought honor to the profession. His family, his friends and his community have lost one who was devoted to them all.

And be it further resolved that the members of our Dauphin

County Bar Association, in meeting assembled, on the death of our

esteemed colleague, tender our sympathy and condolences to his wife, his

children and family;

And be it further resolved that copies of this Memorial

Resolution be spread upon the records of the Dauphin County Court and

the Dauphin County Bar Association, that the original be filed in the office of the Prothonotary and that copies be transmitted to his wife and children.

Respectfully submitted

Smith B. Gephart, Esquire

Francis B. Haas, Jr., Esquire

Judge William W. Lipsitt

Howell C. Mette, Esquire

Warren G. Morgan
Judge Warren G. Morgan

Craig A. Stone, Esquire

Judge William W. Caldwell, Chairman