

In the Supreme Court of the State of Idaho

IN RE: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

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ORDER

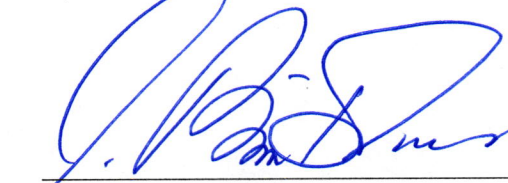
The Court having reviewed and approved the attached Resolution;

NOW THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED that the attached RESOLUTION be, and hereby is, adopted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that notice of this Order shall be published electronically by the Idaho State Bar.

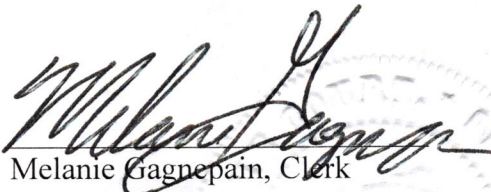
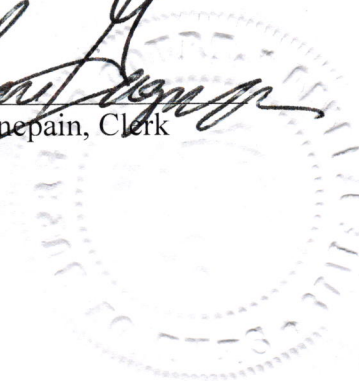
Dated this 10th day of October, 2023

By Order of the Supreme Court



G. Richard Bevan, Chief Justice

ATTEST:


Melanie Gagnepain, Clerk

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING IDAHO PRO BONO WEEK OCTOBER 22-28, 2023

WHEREAS, we are a nation dedicated to “liberty and justice for all,” and equal justice and the fair administration of justice are fundamental to our system of government; and

WHEREAS, the promise of equal justice under the law is not realized for individuals and families who have no meaningful access to the justice system because they are unable to pay for legal services; and

WHEREAS, this de facto denial of equal justice has an adverse impact on these individuals, families, and society as a whole, and works to erode public trust and confidence in our system of justice; and

WHEREAS, Idaho’s lawyers and judges strongly support the provision of free-of-charge legal services to those cannot afford them and have joined together in a collaborative effort to support pro bono services through the establishment of the Idaho Pro Bono Commission; and

WHEREAS, numerous public and private Idaho lawyers perform pro bono service through the Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program under the auspices of the Idaho State Bar and Idaho Law Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Idaho Legal Aid Services is a statewide non-profit law firm dedicated to serving the civil legal needs of low income Idahoans through its seven regional offices and provides free legal services to thousands of Idahoans with legal problems such as domestic violence, wrongful evictions, illegal foreclosure, guardianships for abused or neglected children, Medicaid and Social Security problems of seniors, and unlawful discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Law Foundation is sponsoring a statewide Access to Justice campaign to fund legal services for low-income residents and persons with disabilities, with the funding to be shared among the Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program, Idaho Legal Aid Services, and Disability Rights Idaho; and

WHEREAS, many Idaho lawyers, acting upon their volition, generously provide many untallied hours of pro bono service to the citizens of our State without receiving recognition for their unpaid services; and

WHEREAS, students at the University of Idaho College of Law perform pro bono service, under the supervision of lawyers and judges, as part of the College’s distinctive pro bono program in which every student participates; and

WHEREAS, October 22-28, 2023, has been designated as National Pro Bono Week; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Pro Bono Commission, consisting of the state courts of Idaho, the United States Courts for the District and Bankruptcy Courts for the District of Idaho, the Idaho State Bar, the Idaho Law Foundation, and the University of Idaho College of Law, recognizes the need to expand the delivery of legal services to economically disadvantaged persons and families;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Idaho Pro Bono Commission and its constituent members recognize Pro Bono Week, October 22-28, 2023, as a time for Idaho, along with the rest of the Nation, to honor the work of those who provide volunteer legal services, to address the need for civil legal assistance on matters of profound urgency, and to remind all attorneys of their responsibility to assist in meeting the legal profession's sacred commitment to equal justice under the law.

DATED this ___ day of October, 2023, by the IDAHO PRO BONO COMMISSION, and its constituent members: SUPREME COURT OF IDAHO, UNITED STATES DISTRICT AND BANKRUPTCY COURTS FOR THE DISTRICT OF IDAHO, IDAHO STATE BAR, IDAHO LAW FOUNDATION, and the UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO COLLEGE OF LAW.