DUTCHESS COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Condolence: William J. O'Neill
Resolution No. 2024139
The Dutchess County Legislature offers the following and moves its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Dutchess County Legislature has learned with great sadness and regret of the recent death of William J. O'Neill on July 5, 2024, and

WHEREAS, Bill was born on May 16, 1938, in Red Hook, New York to the late Jack and Julia O'Neill, and

WHEREAS, Bill was a graduate of Red Hook High School, Brown University, and Duke Law School, and

WHEREAS, Bill married Mary Belliveau (Witter). Upon their divorce, Bill married Mary Zane Hawkins, who died in 1996, and then later married Jean Riale (Pellegrino) in 1997, who survives at home, and

WHEREAS, Bill began his career as a special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in North Carolina and was later hired as a Dutchess County Assistant District Attorney by Honorable Albert Rosenblatt, retiring in 2002 and concluding a 31-year career as an outstanding trial lawyer as well as being instrumental in the training and development of many young attorneys. After he retired, Bill joined his long-time friend Jim O'Neil's firm part-time before fully retiring in 2012, and

WHEREAS, after retirement, Bill turned his full attention to Red Hook, serving as the appointed Chief Deputy of the Town and being instrumental in the preservation of farmland and public spaces in Red Hook, being elected four times to the Town Board, and

WHEREAS, Bill was predeceased by his sister Claire O'Neill Carr, his brother John T. O'Neill, and his granddaughter Natalie O'Neill, and

WHEREAS, in addition to his loving wife Jean O'Neill, Bill is survived by his children Elizabeth Avis, Daniel O'Neill, Adam O'Neill, and Alec O'Neill, his step-children Kama Borquist, Christopher Riale, and Stephanie Riale, his grandchildren Ian, Maxwell, Isabel, Emily, William, Audrey, Levi, Arden, Rosemary, Danielle, Trevor, Hudson, and Bradyn, his great grandchildren Natalie, Jack, Daisy, Thumbelina, Verona, Llewyn, and Mabel, his sister-in-law Sandy O'Neill, his brother-in-law Geoffrey Carr, and several nephews and nieces, and

WHEREAS, Bill's passing will be mourned by his family, friends, and colleagues throughout Dutchess County, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Dutchess County Legislature, on behalf of all the people of Dutchess County, does hereby extend its deep sympathy and sincere condolences to the family and friends of the late William J. O'Neill, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the meeting of the Dutchess County Legislature be adjourned in memory of the late William J. O'Neill.

STATE OF NEW YORK
ss:
COUNTY OF DUTCHESS

This is to certify that I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Dutchess, have compared the foregoing resolution with the original resolution now on file in the office of said clerk, and which was adopted by said Legislature on the 15th day of July 2024, and that the same is a true and correct transcript of said original resolution and of the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of said Legislature this 15th day of July 2024.

LEIGH WAGER, CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE