

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

25-127

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

October 3, 2023

To honor the exceptional service and commitment of the citizens who perform jury duty in the District of Columbia Courts and declare the week of October 2 to October 6, 2023, Juror Appreciation Week in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, the right to a trial by jury is one of the core principles of American democracy;

WHEREAS, the obligation and privilege to serve as a juror are as fundamental to citizenship as the right to vote;

WHEREAS, participation in jury service is integral to the relationship between government and the people;

WHEREAS, jury service is a significant way to participate in the democratic process;

WHEREAS, the American justice system and its courts depend upon citizens to serve as jurors;

WHEREAS, jurors promote fairness and make incredibly impactful judgements in legal proceedings;

WHEREAS, participation in jury service is a testament to the civic virtue and responsibility of District citizens;

WHEREAS, all citizens should be encouraged to see the value in service and respond when summoned;

WHEREAS, a continuing and imperative goal for the courts, the bar, and the broader community is to ensure that jury selection and service are fair, effective, and not unduly burdensome;

WHEREAS; every person who lives, works, or travels in the District is impacted by the outcomes of jury trials;

WHEREAS, citizens serving as jurors represent the larger community and its values;

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WHEREAS, District adults are mailed summonses at more than triple the national rate;
and

WHEREAS, District adults are impaneled on juries at more than double the national rate.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Juror Appreciation Week Recognition Resolution of 2023”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia honors the exceptional service and commitment of the citizens who perform jury duty in the District of Columbia Courts and declares the week of October 2 to October 6, 2023, “Juror Appreciation Week” in the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.