

**MEMORIAL RESOLUTION UPON THE DEATH OF THE
HONORABLE JOSEPH H. KLEINFELTER**

I am honored to offer a few words here today as we honor the memory of our colleague and friend Joe Kleinfelter. On behalf of our Court, President Judge Todd Hoover, Judges Turgeon, Lewis, Evans, Clark, Bratton, Curcillo, Coates, Dowling, Caldwell, Morgan and Miller, we wish to express to the Kleinfelter family our condolences and sympathy for your loss. It is also our loss.

From the time I met Joe when I was a law clerk in the DA's office, I viewed him as larger than life. There was an aura about him.

He was the trial attorney that all young DAs aspired to become.

He had a profound knowledge of evidence and the law.

He was quick witted.

His preparation was unmatched.

His closing arguments to the jury were spellbinding.

He once told me to remember that "The law is a jealous mistress. She never lets you rest." It has become true for me.

I was privileged to watch epic courtroom battles between Joe and great attorneys such as Costopolous, Kalikow, Fetterhoff, Lappas, Lock, Tarman, Dils, and others.

When I became an Assistant DA, Joe was assigned to me as my mentor. It was the luckiest day of my life as an attorney.

He taught me to prepare my files, comb police reports, to know my case – every case, and be prepared for every question a judge might ask.

I and many other attorneys owe their careers as trial attorneys to Joe.

Joe taught me to develop a relationship with law enforcement. "You're there to advise them, but you'll learn more from them than you'll ever offer."

I remember my first jury trial. Joe sat with me. I was very nervous about the trial – and Joe sitting there! But he was calm and reassuring throughout. When the jury pronounced "Guilty," there was Joe's hand grabbing mine and squeezing it. Afterwards he said, "Don't change a thing – the jury loved your emotion."

Now, Joe was German. He was good at keeping his emotions in check. I'm Italian – emotion/emotion/emotion! Those early days cemented our friendship of 30 years.

Now, all of you know that Joe had no problem with telling you when he believed you were wrong, whether you were an attorney or a judge! He was proud to tell the story of the day when Judge Shelley ordered him taken into custody.

We all know of how proud Joe was to be a Judge. He brought all of those qualities I have spoken of as an attorney to the bench. He always felt he was fair, and most shared that opinion. It was the bark – not the bite – that told the true story. The bad guys got it, but most others were given a fair break.

As the years went by we developed a habit that when I would see him I would bow and say, "My liege," and he would respond, "My prince." It was deep affection from Joe – a goodness, kindness and love from within him that I will always cherish.

Joe loved the Court and promoted collegiality. Whether it was the Roundtable for our weekly judges' luncheon or our monthly judges' dinner, Joe saw the importance of the Court discussing the law and enjoying each other's company.

Joe could vigorously disagree with a colleague on a matter at a meeting and toast that same colleague at dinner.

Joe spearheaded the renovation of the Lawyers' Lounge. He believed it should be a place of dignity and for lawyers and the Court to use.

Now, we all know there was another side of Joe outside the courtroom – tales safe to share today:

Driving with a bunch of DAs in Det. Ken Barbush's squad car with sirens blowing on the way to meet police and other DAs at a watering hole on Union Deposit Road;

Dancing on the tables at the DAs Christmas party at an area restaurant where the DAs are no longer welcome;

His skiing trips to Ski Saw Mill;

His preference for sauterne and National Bohemian beer;

His times on his boat and at Hill Island;

And his more sedate hobbies of stamp and postcard collecting.

Joe was a deeply religious man and loved his church and his God. Joe loved his country and served it with honor in the military and in the community. Joe loved his family and was deeply proud of his sons, Joe and Mark. Joe loved his colleagues and his friends and was deeply loyal to them.

As we all know that because of his health not everything turned out as Joe had hoped during his last years. But Joe faced those challenges in the same way that he faced the challenges in the courtroom – with grace, with dignity, and with honor.

Farewell, my liege.

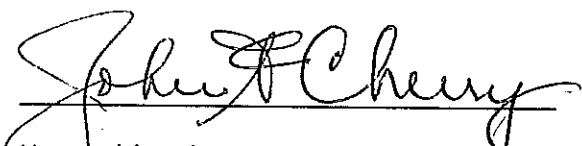
Therefore, be it resolved that in the passing of Honorable Joseph H. Kleinfelter, the community has lost a great jurist and the bar has lost a great friend.

And resolved further that the members of the Dauphin County Bar Association in meeting assembled, mourn the death of our esteemed colleague Honorable Joseph H. Kleinfelter and tender our sympathy and condolences to his beloved children and family.

Further resolved 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 copy be filed in the office of the Prothonotary, and that copies be transmitted to his children and his family.

February 8, 2012

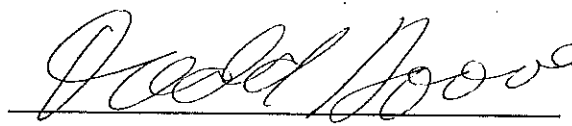
Respectfully submitted,



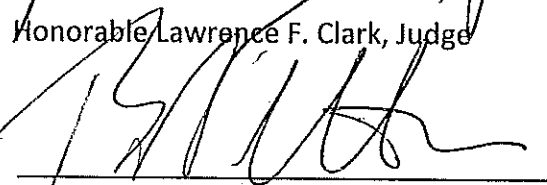
Honorable John F. Cherry, Judge, Chair



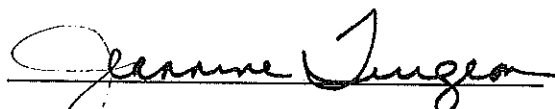
Honorable Lawrence F. Clark, Judge



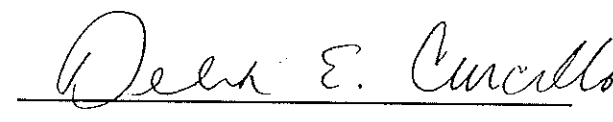
Honorable Todd A. Hoover, President Judge



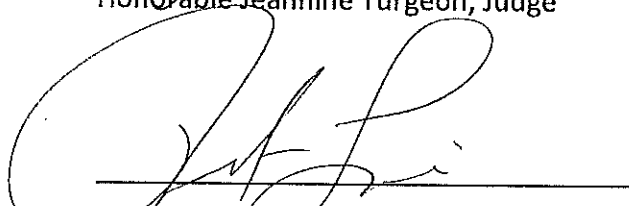
Honorable Bruce F. Bratton, Judge



Honorable Jeannine Turgeon, Judge



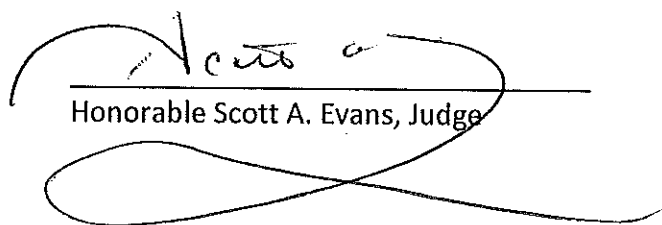
Honorable Deborah E. Curcillo, Judge



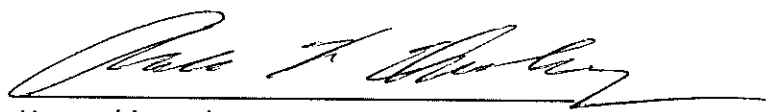
Honorable Richard A. Lewis, Judge



Honorable Bernard L. Coates, Judge



Honorable Scott A. Evans, Judge



Honorable Andrew H. Dowling, Judge