

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

RESOLUTION RE: A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

WHEREAS, WSBA's mission is to serve the public and its members, ensure the integrity of the profession, and to champion justice, and its Guiding Principles include advancing and promoting: access to the justice system; diversity, equality, and cultural understanding throughout the legal community; the public's understanding of the rule of law and its confidence in the legal system; a fair and impartial judiciary; and the ethics, civility, professionalism, and competence of the Bar;

WHEREAS, during World War II the United States government imposed curfews, removal, and incarceration of more than 120,000 Japanese Americans, including U.S. citizens, residing in Washington and other western states, citing military necessity, following President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066 issued on February 19, 1942, and prosecuted those that did not comply;

WHEREAS, lawyers and courts in Washington played a role in both the imposition and enforcement of these actions, and in the efforts 40 years later to vacate the convictions and obtain judgments of governmental misconduct in the legal cases;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That WSBA recognizes **February 19, 2017**, the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066, "A Day of Remembrance," as an opportunity to reaffirm WSBA's mission and Guiding Principles, review the lessons of the past for present and future generations of legal professionals and the public, and express its gratitude to the legal professionals and members of the public that stood up to champion justice for Japanese Americans during World War II and after, and to all legal professionals and members of the public that today continue to seek access to justice, integrity of the profession, and a fair and impartial judiciary committed to equity in the treatment of all persons.

Unanimously adopted by the Washington State Bar Association Board of Governors on January 27, 2017.

Paula C. Littlewood

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Executive Director