

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the life of Richard A. Hennessy, Jr.

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is moved to publicly mourn the passing of prominent citizens of the State of New York whose purposeful careers and worthy endeavors have contributed to the quality and character of life in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Richard A. Hennessy, Jr., a respected lawyer, a former Onondaga County District Attorney and a former Syracuse City Court Judge, passed away on April 19, 2011, at the age of 75; and

WHEREAS, Born in Watervliet, New York, on July 31, 1935, Richard A. Hennessy, Jr. moved to Syracuse in 1962; and

WHEREAS, Richard A. Hennessy, Jr. attended LaSalle Institute, Siena College and Albany Law School; and

WHEREAS, Richard A. Hennessy, Jr. clerked in the law offices of John B. LaParo, Esq. and Hon. Leo F. Hayes and was admitted to the bar in 1969; and

WHEREAS, An assistant district attorney from 1971 to 1976, Richard A. Hennessy, Jr. served as the Onondaga County District Attorney from 1977 to 1987; and

WHEREAS, Following his tenure as an Onondaga County District Attorney, Richard A. Hennessy, Jr. went into private practice until he was appointed Syracuse City Court Judge in 1995, after which he returned to private practice; and

WHEREAS, A communicant of Blessed Sacrament Church, Richard A. Hennessy, Jr. was a member of the New York State Bar Association, the Onondaga County Bar Association, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and the American Legion; he also served as President of both the New York State District Attorney's Association and the Syracuse Claims Association; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his first wife, Eleanor Hennessy, Richard A. Hennessy, Jr. is survived by his wife, Christine; daughter, Kristen A. Hennessy; three sons, Richard A. Hennessy III, Daniel M. Hennessy, and Matthew Hennessy; a brother, James Hennessy; and three grandchildren, Jack, Ella and Mace; as well as several nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Richard A. Hennessy, Jr. leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; and

WHEREAS, Recognized as an advocate for the little guy, and someone who loved his work and his family, Richard A. Hennessy, Jr. will be remembered for his smile and his Irish wit; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the life and illustrious career of former Onondaga County District Attorney and former Syracuse City Court Judge, Richard A. Hennessy, Jr.; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of The Honorable Richard A. Hennessy, Jr.