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In Memoriam

ROBERT O'BRIEN HAWTHORNE, JR.

April 13, 1923 - April 22, 1990

DEPUTY CLERK

We the undersigned committee, designated by the Shreveport Bar Association to prepare and submit the resolution to the memory to the late Judge Robert O'Brien Hawthorne, Jr., a dedicated member of our profession, submit the following:

The late Judge Robert O'Brien Hawthorne, Jr. was born in Longleaf, Rapides Parish, Louisiana, on the 13th day of April, 1923. He departed this life in Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana, on the 22nd day of April, 1990.

Judge Hawthorne was educated in the public schools of Rapides and Caddo Parishes. He attended George Washington University, Washington, D.C., and graduated from Centenary College in 1951.

He maintained employment as a corporate executive and officer, and corporate counsel until 1960 when he began his private practice of law in Shreveport. This law practice was maintained until June 1964 when he accepted an appointment as Administrative Law Judge for the United States Government, Department of Health and Human Resources.

This appointment necessitated that he and his family relocate from Shreveport to Alexandria, Louisiana. He continued in this position until his death. His membership in the Shreveport Bar Association was uninterrupted until his death.

Judge Hawthorne mounted the bench with experience in Administrative Law. Not only had he earned his stripes fighting in the administrative law trenches, but he had plodded and run in the highest professional circles. He had been a most active member of the Administrative Law Section of the American Bar Association.

At the time of his appointment there were two Administrative Law Judges in Alexandria and one in New Orleans. After his appointment and that of Judge George Ponder, there were five judges to handle all the Social Security Cases arising in Louisiana. At his death there were twenty two in the State of Louisiana. A five hundred percent increase in the twenty six years since Judge Hawthorne was appointed.

Judge Hawthorne spent more than half of his life, after his teenage years, in the service of the citizens of this nation.

He was a vigorous man; without physical, mental or moral fear. He was blessed with a clear, sharp and incisive mind. His training and education were complete and comprehensive. Not only did he enjoy an outstanding legal mind, but he had a genuine feel for the law. Not only did he know and ascertain what the law is, but what it was and what it would become in the future. He was not only sound in the law, but had self-confidence in his ability.

He was a leader in the ultimate development of the Administrative Law Courts in this nation. He was very instrumental in the establishment of the Federal Administrative Law Judges Conference. He served two terms as the president of this body, whose nationwide purpose is the improvement of the quality of justice.

In 1986 the American Bar Association cited this organization for its outstanding efforts during the period from 1982-1984 to protect the integrity of Administrative Adjudication within their agency, and to preserve the public's confidence in the fairness of governmental institutions, and to uphold the rule of law. This was the first time in the history of the American Bar Association that it had ever awarded a commendation to a group of judges.

Judge Hawthorne's endeavor in the corporate field as well as his private practice of law was equally impressive, but he spent the majority of his life as a law practitioner in the field of Administrative Law.

Judge Hawthorne was a member of many professional and community organizations, including the following:

Association of Administrative Law Judges in U. S. Department of Health Education and Welfare;

Member of the Executive Courts 1976 - 1986 President 1977 - 1978;

Federal Administrative Law Judges Conference;

American Bar Association since 1955 and active in the following sections:

Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice

Criminal Justice

Tort and Insurance Practice

Judicial Administration Division

Labor and Employment Law

Louisiana State Bar Association since 1954

Shreveport Bar Association since 1954.

Judge Hawthorne is survived by his wife, Carolyn Edmonson Hawthorne; son, Russell O'Brien Hawthorne, all of Pineville, Louisiana, and a daughter, Terrie Elizabeth Frankel, and grandsons, Jason and Aaron Frankel, of Houston Texas.

In addition to his family, Judge Hawthorne is survived by friends and colleagues who learned from the example he set, and who benefitted from observing his devotion to his family and profession. He is sorely missed by his family and by his many friends who knew him. This committee is privileged to offer the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Shreveport Bar Association does hereby direct that the admiration and respect in which Judge Robert O'Brien Hawthorne, Jr. was held by his fellow practitioners of the law, and his fellow citizens be made a part of the records of the First Judicial District Court and that a copy of this attempt to expressed this admiration and respect be sent, with the sympathy of this Association, to his family.

Respectfully submitted this 29th day of October, 1990.

Henry K/Politz

bel M. Sermons

Gorman E Taylor, Chairman