

Resolution of Appreciation for Richard J. "Jake" Washburne

WHEREAS Richard J. "Jake" Washburne has served with distinction as General Registrar and Director of Elections for the County of Albemarle, Virginia since 2006; and

WHEREAS, Jake has presided over 42 elections and primaries in the County over the last 16 years, involving more than 821,000 individual votes cast; and

during his time in office, Jake's job has become far more complex, due to the one-third increase in the number of County voters, the implementation of significant election law changes including no-excuse absentee voting and in-person early voting, ensuring both voters' and election workers' safety through the COVID pandemic; and increased security and technology requirements, all of which he has successfully implemented; and

WHEREAS, Jake has consistently served with grace and integrity under intense time pressure and public scrutiny and maintained his cool demeanor even while under fire from the occasional angry voter who was under the misimpression that they had registered to vote; and

WHEREAS, Jake's fidelity to the law and deep personal integrity have won the trust and admiration of both political parties in Albemarle County and maintained the public trust in the integrity and security of Albemarle County elections.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors, do hereby honor and commend Jake Washburne for his many years of exceptional service to the County of Albemarle, County residents, the Elections Office, and the Commonwealth of Virginia. Jake's dedicated service to the most fundamental right of citizenship – the right to vote – has advanced the very cause of democracy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting of the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors as a lasting and visible testament to the esteem in which Jake is held by this Board and previous Boards for his lasting legacy of government service and the tangible result of his work to ensure fair and free elections in Albemarle county.

Signed this 15th day of June 2022

Donna Price, Chair Albemarle Board of County Supervisors