



AUGUSTA BAR ASSOCIATION

*Serving the Members of the Bar in the
Cities of Staunton and Waynesboro
and the County of Augusta*

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CONSOLIDATION OF THE COURTS IN AUGUSTA COUNTY AND THE CITY OF STAUNTON

WHEREAS the Augusta Bar Association is the voluntary organization of more than 90 attorneys practicing in Augusta County and the Cities of Staunton and Waynesboro; and

WHEREAS the Augusta Bar Association resolved in January 2015 to "support all efforts for Augusta County...to maintain its Courts in Staunton;" and

WHEREAS one proposed way to achieve this goal is to merge the courts of Augusta County and the City of Staunton; and

WHEREAS Augusta County and Staunton shared common courts from the courts' beginning in 1745 until 1871, when the Commonwealth made its Cities independent; and

WHEREAS shared courts now serve the Cities of Lexington and Harrisonburg, with the Counties of Rockbridge and Rockingham, respectively; and

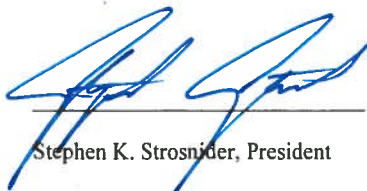
WHEREAS Cities elsewhere in the Commonwealth, such as Williamsburg, Manassas, Fairfax, and others, share courts with their surrounding Counties; and

WHEREAS Staunton and Augusta have shared the administration of their Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Courts since their inception, to the benefit of both jurisdictions; and

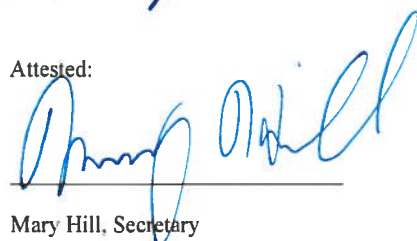
WHEREAS a return to a fully combined Staunton-Augusta court system would honor this community's long history, while giving its people increased efficiency and greater unity;

Now therefore, **IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:** that the Augusta Bar Association supports merging the courts in Augusta County and the City of Staunton; and maintaining the new combined courts' location in the City of Staunton, where they have been for two hundred and seventy years. We call on the people of Staunton and Augusta County, and their elected leaders, to work together to bring about this recommitment to our shared heritage.

Adopted by vote of the members of the Augusta Bar Association this 12th day of May, 2015:


Stephen K. Strosnider, President

Attested:


Mary Hill, Secretary