

City of Buffalo

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

- WHEREAS, The eighth annual National Pro Bono Week is celebrated the week of October 23 -29, 2016; and
- WHEREAS, National Pro Bono Week is a coordinated effort to showcase the tremendous differences that pro bono lawyers make to the people throughout our country and in Buffalo, NY; to highlight the opportunities for pro bono service to help those who cannot afford necessary legal counsel; to recruit and train more pro bono attorneys; and to acknowledge the partnerships that form the basis for many of the private bar's most successful pro bono efforts
- WHEREAS, Our great city of Buffalo, New York joins this national effort to focus attention on the increased need for pro bono legal services during these challenging economic times, and to celebrate the outstanding work of hundreds of local attorneys who volunteer their time and legal services to improve the lives of our community's needy citizens; and
- WHEREAS, Every day far too many needy citizens of Buffalo face serious legal problems affecting the essentials of life without the financial resources to access legal assistance, forcing them to resolve complex legal problems on their own; and
- WHEREAS, We are fortunate to have an exceptionally strong pro bono program in Buffalo in our Erie County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project, which enjoys the support of the Courts, the Bar Association of Erie County, the Minority Bar Association of Western New York, the Women Lawyers of Western New York, the Western New York Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York, the University at Buffalo School of Law, numerous community partners, and countless law firms and attorneys throughout Western New York; and
- WHEREAS, Our local pro bono attorneys donate thousands of hours each year, representing over a million dollars of free legal assistance, contributing to the effective and efficient administration of justice; and
- WHEREAS, Buffalo is a leader in celebrating National Pro Bono Week, with numerous events taking place across the City of Buffalo; and
- WHEREAS, As stated by the Former Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman, "We are fortunate that, in New York State, so many lawyers embrace a culture of service, recognizing the ethical and social responsibility to volunteer their time and legal expertise to help ensure that we are providing for the justice needs of all."

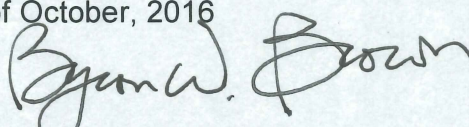
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, BYRON W. BROWN, Mayor of the City of Buffalo, do hereby proclaim October 23 – 29, 2016 as

PRO BONO WEEK

in the City of Buffalo and encourage my fellow citizens to join together to honor the work of those dedicated individuals who provide volunteer legal services, to increase awareness of the growing need for civil legal help on matters of profound urgency, and to remind all attorneys of their professional responsibility to assist in ensuring our commitment to equal justice under law.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I
have hereunto set my hand
and caused the Seal of the
City of Buffalo to be
affixed this 23rd day
of October, 2016


BYRON W. BROWN
MAYOR