## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF ALABAMA September 19, 2024

## ORDER

WHEREAS, all Alabama attorneys take a solemn oath to "support the constitution of the State of Alabama and of the United States," the respective preambles of which both emphasize that these constitutions were formed, in part, to "establish justice";

WHEREAS, Alabama attorneys, as officers of the court and pursuant to Rule 6.1, Ala. R. Prof. Cond., bear a professional responsibility to provide professional services

"at no fee or a reduced fee to persons of limited means or to public service or charitable groups or organizations, by service in activities for improving the law, the legal system or the legal profession, and by financial support for organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means"; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of Alabama encourages all attorneys to abide by both the letter and the spirit of Rule 6.1 through pro bono service and financial support for those organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means; and

WHEREAS, the Holy Bible admonishes that "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35), and "For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required" (Luke 12:28); and

WHEREAS, the annual Pro Bono Month of 2024 is designed to serve Alabamians who greatly need legal assistance but cannot afford to pay for that help by featuring legal aid clinics throughout Alabama, professional development courses designed to teach and update the skills of lawyers and law students in the legal areas in which there is the most need, and service projects throughout the State of Alabama helping lawyers and law students connect with effective legal aid organizations; and

WHEREAS, these service-minded Alabama attorneys who serve their profession, their local communities, and their State by annually donating thousands of hours of pro bono services and making generous financial contributions to legal-aid organizations are due to be commended;

WHEREAS, this commitment to public service, represents one of the noblest attributes of the legal profession;

THEREFORE, AS CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF ALABAMA, I ORDER that October 2024 is designated Pro Bono Month in the Alabama Judiciary to recognize the valuable contributions made by attorneys offering pro bono services throughout the year and to encourage pro bono participation across this State to address the legal needs of low-income Alabamians.

Done this 19th day of September, 2024.

Tom Parker Chief Justice

Supreme Court of Alabama