

RESOLUTION OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

WHEREAS, William C. Lee, a dedicated public servant, who was appointed a federal district judge on July 28, 1981, has served his community, state, and nation with distinction as a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana since August 19, 1981; and

WHEREAS, William C. Lee became a senior judge on February 3, 2003, yet has retained a substantial case load since that date; and

WHEREAS, Judge Lee served as United States Attorney for the Northern District of Indiana from March 6, 1970 to May 7, 1973, having been nominated for that position at the age of 31; and

WHEREAS, Judge Lee was appointed as Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for Allen County, Indiana on January 1, 1963 and Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney on January 1, 1967 and served in that position until September of 1969; and

WHEREAS, Judge Lee engaged in the practice of law in Allen County, Indiana from September 19, 1962 until March of 1970 and established a reputation as an outstanding trial attorney; and

WHEREAS, after Judge Lee returned to the practice of law as a trial lawyer in May of 1973, his reputation grew and he was nominated to a Fellowship in the American College of Trial Lawyers in his first year of eligibility for admission to that national organization; and

WHEREAS, during his entire career Judge Lee has been very active in Continuing Legal Education for practicing lawyers, having participated in over 30 such programs as presenter or lecturer, and serving as the founding President of the Benjamin Harrison American Inn of Court, and is co-author of *Federal Jury Practice and Instructions* by O'Malley, Grenig and Lee, and *Business and Commercial Litigation in the Federal Courts*, both published by the West Publishing Company and updated every year; and

WHEREAS, throughout his entire career, Judge Lee has been active with organizations involved in providing legal services to the indigent as President of the Allen County Legal Aid Society, and he served on the Board of the Volunteer Lawyer Program of North East Indiana, and served as chairman of the Indiana Pro Bono Commission; and

WHEREAS, during his 60 years in the legal profession, Judge Lee has received many honors and awards, including the following:

- 1972 - National Conservation Award - Izaak Walton League of America,
- 1979 - Fellow of American College of Trial Lawyers,
- 1988 - Indiana Trial Judge of the Year,
- 1999 - Doctor of Laws (Hon.) Huntington College,
- 2001 - Sagamore of the Wabash,

2005 - Ove Jorgenson Spirit of Leadership Award,  
2012 - Nieman Citation for Excellence and Professionalism,  
2012 - Golden Career,  
2013 - Volunteer Lawyer Program Lifetime Achievement Award,  
2016 - Allen County Bar Association Lifetime Achievement Award; and

WHEREAS, during Judge Lee's combined tenure of more than 43 years as United States Attorney and United States District Judge, Judge Lee served as either lead counsel in all cases in the Fort Wayne Division in which the Federal Government was a party or the assigned judge in approximately 15,000 cases; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his legal career, Judge Lee has been very active in community affairs including the following:

- Co-Chairman of Fort Wayne Fine Arts Operating Fund Drive for 1978,
- Member, Board of Directors and Secretary, Vice President and President of Fort Wayne Philharmonic Orchestra,
- Member, Board of Directors of Fort Wayne Fine Arts Foundation,
- Member, Board of Directors and Vice President of Hospice of Fort Wayne, Inc.,
- Member, Board of Directors of Fort Wayne Civic Theatre,
- Member, Board of Directors and President of Legal Aid Society of Allen County,
- Member, Board of Directors of Neighbors, Inc.,
- Member of Church Council and Vice President of Trinity English Lutheran Church,
- Member, Board of Directors of Fort Wayne Rotary Club,
- Member, Board of Trustees of Fort Wayne Museum of Art,
- Member, Board of Directors and President of North Side High School Alumni Association,
- Member, Board of Directors of Embassy Theatre Foundation,
- Member, Board of Directors and President of Allen County - Fort Wayne Historical Society,
- Member, Board of Directors of Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne,
- Member, Board of Directors of Fort Wayne Ballet,
- Member, Board of Trustees and President of Fort Wayne Community Schools,
- Member, Board of Directors of Indiana Humanities Council,
- Member, Board of Directors of Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago,
- Member and Chairman of Indiana Pro Bono Commission, and
- Founding Chairman and Member of Fort Wayne Community Schools Scholarship Committee.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, that the court on this date has determined to honor the life, career, and legacy of the Honorable William C. Lee and to give testimony to his remarkable service to his community, the State of Indiana, and the United States of America. Thus, the Court hereby designates

and dedicates to the honor of its judicial brother, William C. Lee, the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor courtroom in the E. Ross Adair Federal Building and United States Courthouse, 1300 South Harrison Street, Fort Wayne, Indiana, as “The William C. Lee Courtroom” by which it shall henceforth be known and outside of which shall be hung his official portrait along with an appropriate plaque memorializing this occasion and this Resolution.

ALL OF WHICH IS SO RESOLVED this 9th day of July 2021.

/s/ Jon E. DeGuilio  
Jon E. DeGuilio, Chief Judge

/s/ James T. Moody  
James T. Moody, Judge

/s/ Robert L. Miller, Jr.  
Robert L. Miller, Jr., Judge

/s/ Philip P. Simon  
Philip P. Simon, Judge

/s/ Theresa L. Springmann  
Theresa L. Springmann, Judge

/s/ Joseph S. Van Bokkelen  
Joseph S. Van Bokkelen, Judge

/s/ Holly A. Brady  
Holly A. Brady, Judge

/s/ Damon R. Leichty  
Damon R. Leichty, Judge