

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** the role of the ombuds originated over 200 years ago in Sweden, designated as a government official charged with advocating on behalf of citizens with complaints or problems with the government; and
- Whereas,** today's ombuds are confidential, independent, and impartial conflict management professionals who work to address individual and systemic issues outside of and complementary to formal channels such as human resources, grievances, complaints, and legal action; and
- Whereas,** ombuds work in a wide variety of organizations worldwide, including universities and colleges, governments at all levels, healthcare institutions, corporations, financial institutions, for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, the media, and international organizations; and
- Whereas,** ombuds programs provide a valuable form of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and significant value to the constituents and institutions they serve, and are an essential supplement to formal conflict management processes that address allegedly inappropriate or wrongful conduct; and
- Whereas,** recognition of this day is an opportunity to increase awareness and understanding of the profession, highlight the value ombuds bring to the organizations and constituents they serve, and encourage the greater use of ombuds programs.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *October 12, 2023* as:

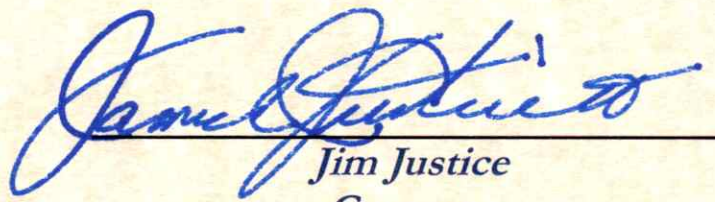
Ombuds Day

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to become familiar with the ombuds profession and the professionals in this role across sectors, and to make use of these essential services as needed.


In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Eighteenth day of August, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three, and in the One Hundred Sixty-First year of the State.




Jim Justice
Governor

By the Governor:


Mac Warner
Secretary of State