

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

A PROCLAMATION

By the Governor

WHEREAS, Darrell Vivian McGraw, Jr. was born on November 8, 1936, in McGraws-Tipple, Wyoming County, West Virginia, and was the eldest son of the late Darrell Vivian McGraw, Sr. and Julia Zekany McGraw; and

WHEREAS, Darrell McGraw, Jr. served in the United States Army for three years before enrolling at West Virginia University, where he was elected Student Body President in 1960; and

WHEREAS, Darrell McGraw, Jr. went on to graduate from West Virginia College of Law with a Masters and Juris Doctorate degree; and

WHEREAS, after Darrell McGraw, Jr. completed law school, he served as counsel to Governor Hulett C. Smith from 1965 to 1969 and later the West Virginia Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Justice McGraw was elected in 1976 to the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals and served as chief justice; and

WHEREAS, Justice McGraw was elected in 1992 as Attorney General of West Virginia, where he held office for twenty years; and

WHEREAS, Justice McGraw's leadership as Attorney General in tobacco litigation, some of the first suits against the pharmaceutical industry for illegal marketing practices and oversupplying rural communities, and other initiatives brought of West Virginia national recognition and settlement funds that have provided much needed support to the State to recover from the illegal practices necessitating these suits; and

WHEREAS, Justice McGraw is survived by his wife of forty-seven years, former West Virginia State Superintendent of Schools, Jorea Marple; four children, Julia Elizabeth McGraw and her husband Randy Austin, Sarah Ruth Plaster and her husband Bruce, Darrell Vivian McGraw III and his wife Marianna, and Elliott Catherine Zekany McGraw; four grandchildren, Lillie Austin, Darrell Vivian McGraw IV, Benjamin David McGraw, and Daniel Alexander McGraw; brothers Timothy McGraw and Mark McGraw; countless other nieces, nephews, and cousins, including his nephew and live-in physician Dr. Jameson Fleming, and his great-niece Arleigh Hunter; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the State of West Virginia, friends, and colleagues and associates of Justice Darrell Vivian McGraw, Jr. desire to recognize his dedicated public service to the Great State of West Virginia, and to acknowledge his many valuable contributions to the State;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM JUSTICE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Governor of the State of West Virginia, do hereby **ORDER** that, in commemoration of the distinguished life and service of West Virginia Supreme Court Justice Darrell Vivian McGraw, Jr., the United States and West Virginia State flags displayed at the Capitol Complex in Charleston, West Virginia, and at all State facilities throughout Wyoming County, shall be lowered to half-staff from dawn to dusk on December 17, 2024, the day of services celebrating his life.

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 in the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Sixteenth Day of December, in the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Second Year of the State.




GOVERNOR

By the Governor


SECRETARY OF STATE