

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; and
- Whereas, citizens are encouraged to become familiar with the ombudsman professionals in the State of West Virginia, and to make use of these essential services as needed. Including but not limited to the Foster Care Ombudsman, Mental Health Ombudsman, Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Marshall University and Faculty Ombudsman, and West Virginia University Faculty Ombudsman.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim **October 10, 2024** as:

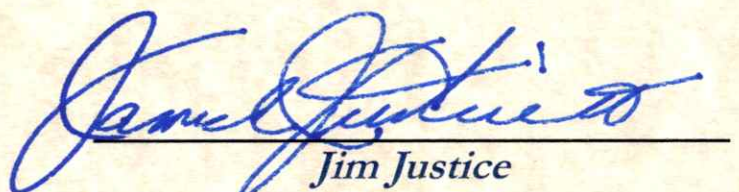
Ombuds Day

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to partner for help and hope for our children's mental health.


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 Twenty-Third day of September, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Second year of the State.




Jim Justice
Governor

By the Governor:


Mac Warner
Secretary of State