



Resolution

HONORING

JUSTICE JAYNEE LAVECCHIA

FOR HER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ON THE NEW JERSEY SUPREME COURT,
A LIFETIME COMMITMENT TO PUBLIC SERVICE
AND THE FAIR ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

- WHEREAS**, Justice Jaynee LaVecchia has had a long and illustrious legal career, emphasizing a dedication to public service that culminated with over 20 years of service on the New Jersey Supreme Court, for which the New Jersey State Bar Association expresses its profound gratitude, and
- WHEREAS**, Justice Jaynee LaVecchia received a bachelor's degree from Douglass College in 1976 and graduated from Rutgers School of Law in Newark in 1979; and
- WHEREAS**, Justice Jaynee LaVecchia worked in private practice before beginning her inspiring career of public service the breadth of which allowed her to gain an understanding of the intricacies of three branches of government and how they interact and included working as a deputy attorney general in the Division of Law in the Department of Law and Public Safety and eventually serving as its director and responsible for the legal work of all lawyers assigned to the civil side of the New Jersey Attorney General's Office; serving in the Office of Counsel to Gov. Thomas H. Kean; serving as Director and Chief Administrative Law Judge for the Office of Administrative Law; and serving as New Jersey Commissioner of Banking and Insurance, and
- WHEREAS**, Justice Jaynee LaVecchia was nominated by Gov. Christine Todd Whitman to serve on the Supreme Court on Jan. 6, 2000, and was confirmed by the Senate on Jan. 10, 2000, and sworn in for a term beginning Feb. 1, 2000, and
- WHEREAS**, on the Court Justice Jaynee LaVecchia treated all who appeared before her with respect, has probed each legal issue with skill and thoughtful questions and has authored analytically sound decisions that exhibit an overriding sense of fairness and a healthy dose of common sense, and
- WHEREAS**, during her service on the Court Justice Jaynee LaVecchia provided a voice and rights to those in need of affordable public housing, one such instance being the 2015 decision in the Mt. Laurel line of cases that judges would take over the regulation of affordable housing in New Jersey after government officials administration repeatedly failed to obey an order to establish a new set of guidelines, and
- WHEREAS**, Justice Jaynee LaVecchia supported access to education for New Jersey school children in the 2011 Abbott XXI decision, authoring the opinion ordering the state to fulfill its promise and return nearly \$500 million in educational funding to primarily urban school districts, and
- WHEREAS**, Justice Jaynee LaVecchia was a voice for the majority opinion protecting people against unreasonable search and seizure in criminal matters, including *In State v. Davila*, where she wrote unanimous opinion protecting against warrantless protective sweeps of a person's residence, and
- WHEREAS**, Justice Jaynee LaVecchia protected the New Jersey public against civil rights abuses and discrimination in many cases, as recently as *Richter v. Oakland Board of Education* in which she authored the Court's majority opinion finding an adverse employment action is not required for a New Jersey Law Against Discrimination Claim to be made, as well as over a decade earlier writing the opinion in *Alexander v. Seton Hall University* that found each payment of unequal wages to female law professors was a separate action under the law, and
- WHEREAS**, Justice Jaynee LaVecchia has left a legacy on the profession through administrative endeavors as chair and member of various Supreme Court Committees, subcommittees, and other Court-assigned projects, including one that led to New Jersey adopting the Uniform Bar Exam, and
- WHEREAS**, throughout her career Justice Jaynee LaVecchia has shared her time and expertise generously with members of the legal profession, including speaking at New Jersey State Bar Association events and New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education seminars, and
- WHEREAS**, Justice Jaynee LaVecchia has been one of the most consequential justices of modern history, sitting longer than any woman on the New Jersey Supreme Court and leaving an incredible body of jurisprudence and procedures, authoring more than 240 opinions, all with the noble pursuit of advancing justice in an imperfect world, and
- BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, the New Jersey State Bar Association and its entire membership honors and thanks Justice Jaynee LaVecchia for four decades of public service, including two decades on the New Jersey Supreme Court, that has enriched every citizen of New Jersey, and additionally recognizes her profound intelligence and an articulate voice that she used to advance the fair and impartial administration of justice.

I, Norberto Garcia, Secretary of the New Jersey State Bar Association, do hereby certify that the above is a full, true and accurate copy of a resolution passed by the Board of Trustees on July 16, 2021. In witness thereof, I have hereto set my hand as such Secretary on this 16th day of July 2021.

NORBERTO GARCIA
SECRETARY
NEW JERSEY STATE BAR ASSOCIATION