

# ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

## Proclamation

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### COMMENDING THE HONORABLE WILLIAM T. NEWMAN, Jr. UPON HIS RETIREMENT AS JUDGE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA'S 17th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable William T. "Bill" Newman, Jr. has been a Judge of the Commonwealth of Virginia's 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit covering Arlington County and the City of Falls Church since 1993 and upon assuming office, was only the second African American to ever serve on the 17<sup>th</sup> Circuit; and

**WHEREAS**, Judge Newman was named Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of Arlington County in 2003; and

**WHEREAS**, Judge Newman has been a groundbreaking leader for decades, first being elected to the Arlington County Board in 1987, becoming the first African-American to be elected to the five Member Board, and serving as Chair in 1991 upon re-election to a second term; and

**WHEREAS**, Judge Newman is Founder and President Emeritus of the Arlington Community Foundation, an organization established in 1991 that stewards personalized and targeted philanthropy to positively impact the Arlington community; and

**WHEREAS**, Judge Newman has held numerous leadership positions, including founding the Northern Virginia Black Attorneys Association in 1983, serving as President of the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments in 1991, being named President Emeritus of the Arlington Community Foundation in 2006, and chairing the Virginia Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, Judge Newman has been honored by several well-deserved awards, such as the NAACP Community Service Award and Urban League Rising Star Award, the William L. Winston Award, the Harry L. Carrico Outstanding Career Service Award, and a Doctor of Law, *honoris causa*, from Catholic University of America; and

**WHEREAS**, Judge Newman excels in both his professional occupations, including recognition as one of the Best Trial Judges by Washingtonian magazine, and being an accomplished and talented actor and member of the Actor's Equity and Screen Actors Guild – American Federation of Television and Radio Artist (SAG-AFTRA); and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Christian Dorsey, Chair of the County Board of Arlington County, Virginia, do hereby proclaim **June 29, 2023 as The Honorable William T. Newman Day** in Arlington County and commend William Newman for his distinguished service and leadership as a Judge of the 17<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court and on public bodies throughout the region and on behalf of Arlington, express gratitude for his service and extend our best wishes for enjoyment and fulfillment in his future endeavors.



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Christian Dorsey  
Chair