

TOWNSHIP of VERONA

Proclamation

Honoring Township Manager Joseph O. D'Arco

WHEREAS, Mr. Joseph O. D'Arco has served as the Township Manager of the Township of Verona since February 7, 2022; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as Township Manager, Mr. D'Arco embraced and fostered the team spirit that distinguishes Verona government while expertly leading substantive change for the betterment of our community through multiple urgent and complex projects and initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Mr. D'Arco faced these challenges with his inapproximable expertise, incomparable work ethic, and unparalleled knowledge, which resulted in realistic and well-conceived solutions to significant issues facing the Township; and

WHEREAS, when making decisions and recommendations to the Township Council, Mr. D'Arco always considered the best interests of the municipality, its residents, and staff while considering long-term strategic goals; and

WHEREAS, Mr. D'Arco's exceptional service to the Township of Verona has been the capstone of an extraordinary fifty-seven year career of service to New Jersey and the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, Mr. D'Arco began his public service in the United States Army, during which he was engaged in combat in Vietnam and honorably discharged in 1967, and is a distinguished advocate for veterans' causes as a life member of the Veterans' of Foreign Wars post 711, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 510, and Disabled American Veterans Chapter 14; and

WHEREAS, Mr. D'Arco, a licensed health officer, began his career in municipal management as public health for the Township of Bloomfield in 1967, and later served as the chief municipal administrator for Caldwell Borough, Rockaway Borough, South Orange Village, Sayreville Borough, the Town of Kearny, Paramus Borough, and the Township of Verona; and

WHEREAS, Mr. D'Arco holds a Bachelor of Science in Public Safety Administration from William Paterson College, a Master of Public Administration from Fairleigh Dickinson University, holds a labor relations certificate from Rutgers University, is a Senior Certified Professional by the International Public Management Association for Human Resources, is a Registered Municipal Clerk, and Environmental Health Specialist, and

WHEREAS, Mr. D'Arco serves the community as a 3rd and 4th degree member of the Knights of Columbus in Clifton, Bloomfield Friends of the Library, Bloomfield Historical Society, the Bloomfield/Newark Elks Lodge 788, and the Verona Lions Club; and

WHEREAS, Mr. D'Arco is an avid motorcyclist, classic car aficionado, and traveler who enjoys spending time with his wife Louise Palagano, children Danielle, Jennifer, John, and Andrea, and grandchildren Maxwell, Alexander, Liam, Ryan, and Luca, as his many friends; and

WHEREAS, Mr. D'Arco's career and volunteerism are shining example of dedicated public service from which government staff, elected officials, and community members can learn valuable lessons for the betterment of their communities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. D'Arco is most deserving of an enjoyable retirement and public recognition for his exceptional service.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dr. Christopher Tamburro, Mayor of the Township of Verona do hereby honor Mr. Joseph O. D'Arco for his fifty-seven years of extraordinary public service and designate Thursday, February 6, 2025 as Joseph D'Arco day in the Township of Verona. I further call upon all residents and municipal staff to join in this celebration of his dedication to the Verona and greater New Jersey communities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Official Seal of the Township of Verona, New Jersey to be affixed this 3rd day of February in the year 2025.



Christoph H. Tamburro

Dr. Christopher H. Tamburro
Mayor

TOWNSHIP of VERONA
Proclamation
PROUT FUNERAL HOME

WHEREAS, for 100 years the Prout Funeral Home has stood as a pillar of compassion, care, and service in Verona and the greater Essex County community; and

WHEREAS, the Prout legacy begins with Michael C. Prout. Originally a carpenter and postal employee in Montclair, Michael C. Prout pursued a new path and earned his funeral director's license from Renouard School for Embalmers in New York City; and

WHEREAS, Michael and his wife, Mary Reilly Prout began their business operating out of their home in Montclair; and

WHEREAS, in 1924, Michael and Mary moved to Verona and opened the first full-service funeral home in West Essex; and

WHEREAS, the original location of Prout Funeral Home was located at 595 Bloomfield Avenue, across from the Civic Center;

WHEREAS, in 1952, the business moved to its current location at 370 Bloomfield Avenue and has remained a cornerstone of the Verona community; and

WHEREAS, in 1970, Michael and Mary's oldest son, Frank, and his wife Jeanne took ownership as the second generation to lead the family business; and

WHEREAS, the torch was passed to Frank and Jeanne's son, Robert and his wife, Meg, who further modernized the business, focusing on sustainability; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, Prout Funeral Home became the first in Verona to adopt solar energy by installing solar panels, exemplifying their dedication to not just families, but to the environment; and

WHEREAS, today, celebrating 100 years of service to the Verona community, the fourth generation, siblings Julia and Steven Prout have advanced the business, enhancing its digital presence and offering online planning services to better meet the needs of today's modern families; and

WHEREAS, in addition to providing compassionate care, the Prout family has maintained a deep connection with the Verona community consistently supporting non-profit and student organizations and community initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the Prout legacy now extends even further with the addition of a new and unique family member: Morris V. Prout, Certified Funeral Home Therapy Dog, bringing comfort to grieving families with his gentle presence and contributing to our community thorough visits to rehabilitation centers and nursing homes; and

WHEREAS, for 100 years the Prout Funeral Home has stood as a pillar of compassion, care and service in our community. As they enter into their second century, the Prout family remains dedicated to their legacy, serving the community with the same unwavering commitment that began with Michael and Mary in 1924.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, that I, Dr. Christopher H. Tamburro, Mayor of the Township of Verona do hereby honor the Prout family during their 100th year anniversary and commend their dedication and service to the Township.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have here unto set my hand and caused the great seal of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey, to be affixed on this 2nd day of December, 2024.



Christopher H. Tamburro
Dr. Christopher H. Tamburro
Mayor

TOWNSHIP of VERONA
Proclamation

**GIRL SCOUT TROOP 20528 SILVER AWARD
ALICE HOLLAND**

WHEREAS, throughout its long and distinguished history, Girl Scouts of America has inspired millions of girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, and patriotism; and

WHEREAS, through Girl Scouting, every girl, everywhere grows strong, gains self-confidence and skills for success, and learns her duty to the world around her; and

WHEREAS one of the major objectives in the Girl Scout's program is to develop citizenship through community involvement, and in addition to working for citizenship merit badges, Girl Scouts are encouraged to participate in community service projects; and

WHEREAS, this past year, eighth grade Girl Scout Cadettes, Alice Holland, Maya Mahmood and Josie Villani achieved the Silver Award, which is one of the highest awards a Girl Scout can earn; and

WHEREAS, these extraordinary Cadettes, identified an unmet need in our community and devised a plan to solve it. Their project was to increase public interest to use public transportation by ensuring a safe, clean, welcoming experience for those traveling on public transportation; and

WHEREAS, Cadettes Holland, Mahmood and Villani improved local bus shelters and created a mini free library and worked with NJ Transit and the Verona Lions Club to increase visible signage near bus stops.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, I, Dr. Christopher H. Tamburro, Mayor of the Township of Verona, do hereby congratulate and recognize Alice Holland, Maya Mahmood and Josie Villani of Girl Scout Troop 20528, for earning a Silver Award, and urge all citizens to pay special tribute to these very special and talented young ladies.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Official Seal of the Township of Verona, New Jersey to be affixed this 2nd Day of December in the year 2024.



Christopher H. Tamburro
Dr. Christopher H. Tamburro
Mayor

TOWNSHIP of VERONA
Proclamation
for
**THE 55TH ANNUAL
PROFESSIONAL MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK**

WHEREAS, the Office of the Municipal Clerk, a time honored and vital part of local government exists throughout the world, and

WHEREAS, The Office of the Municipal Clerk is the oldest among public servants, and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Municipal Clerk provides the professional link between the citizens, the local governing bodies and agencies of government at other levels, and

WHEREAS, professional Municipal Clerks have pledged to be ever mindful of their neutrality and impartiality, rendering equal service to all.

WHEREAS, The Municipal Clerk serves as the information center on functions of local government and community.

WHEREAS, Municipal Clerks continually strive to improve the administration of the affairs of the Office of the Municipal Clerk through participation in education programs, seminars, workshops and the annual meetings of their state, provincial, county and international professional organizations.

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that we recognize the accomplishments of the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that I, Dr. Christopher Tamburro, Mayor of the Township of Verona do hereby recognize the week of May 5th through 11th, 2024, as Professional Municipal Clerks Week, and further extend appreciation to our Professional Municipal Clerk, Jennifer Kiernan and to all Municipal Clerks for the vital services they perform and their exemplary dedication to the communities they represent.



Dr. Christopher Tamburro
Mayor