

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF ALABAMA
September 29, 2020

ORDER

WHEREAS, Alabama attorneys, as officers of the court, bear a professional responsibility, pursuant to Rule 6.1, Ala. R. Prof. Cond., to provide professional services

"at no fee or a reduced fee to persons of limited means or to public service or charitable groups or organizations, by service in activities for improving the law, the legal system or the legal profession, and by financial support for organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means"; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Supreme Court encourages all attorneys to abide by both the letter and the spirit of Rule 6.1 through pro bono service and financial support for those organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means; and

WHEREAS, the Holy Bible admonishes that "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35), and "For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required" (Luke 12:28); and

WHEREAS, in 2019, 1,380 Alabama pro bono attorneys closed 3,300 cases for low-income Alabamians; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, Alabama had more than 45 pro bono cases closed per 10,000 persons living at or below the poverty level in comparison to the national average of 18.2 pro bono cases closed per 10,000 persons living at or below the poverty level;

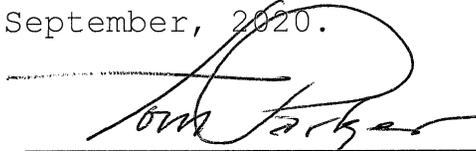
WHEREAS, commendation is due to the many Alabama attorneys who serve their profession, their communities, and their State by donating thousands of hours of pro bono services and by making generous financial contributions to legal-aid organizations; and

WHEREAS, this commitment to public service, especially during the historic challenges presented by COVID-19,

represents one of the noblest attributes of the legal profession;

THEREFORE, AS CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE ALABAMA SUPREME COURT, I ORDER that October 2020 is designated Pro Bono Month in the Alabama Judiciary to recognize the valuable contributions made by attorneys offering pro bono services throughout the year and to encourage pro bono participation across this State to address the legal needs of low-income Alabamians.

Done this 29th day of September, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Parker", written over a horizontal line.

Tom Parker
Chief Justice