

Curtis Walton **Let Our Violence End** (LOVE) through Kindness Day

WHEREAS, Curtis Walton was born on September 30, 1986 to Bonnie Walton and the late Chief Petty Officer David Walton; was murdered on April 8, 2020 while simply walking in his neighborhood; and,

WHEREAS, Curtis Walton grew up in the Westhaven neighborhood of Portsmouth and attended Portsmouth Public Schools, Portsmouth Catholic and later Portsmouth Christian Schools where he graduated in 2004; and,

WHEREAS, empowering future generations and all those whom he came in contact with to follow their dreams and demonstrating tremendous leadership potential from a young age, volunteering for organizations like the Making a Difference Foundation, Toys for Tots, and the Salvation Army, serving on the Portsmouth Youth Advisory Commission, and helping the community whenever he could; Curtis Walton found his passion early in life, a life rooted in his faith, family, and community unity, and,

WHEREAS, his patriotism, integrity, heart of selfless love and compassion, hard work and dedication, has inspired many around the world to pursue and achieve their dreams, no matter how big or small it might seem; and,

WHEREAS, Curtis Walton graduated summa cum laude from Old Dominion University with a bachelor's degree in political science and a minor in economics; major highlights of his university career included roles with the student body government and internships at the General Assembly with former Senator Ken Stolle and former Senator Harry Blevins; and

WHEREAS, Curtis Walton also received the Boyd Fellowship to the prestigious Thomas C. Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership at the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, after briefly working in Iraq and throughout the United States, Curtis Walton attended Liberty University, earning his juris doctor in 2012; shortly thereafter, he was admitted to Virginia State Supreme Court and lower courts, U S District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia and Western District of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Curtis Walton, an esteemed attorney who greatly served his country throughout his career in public service with the United States government, serving meritoriously with various agencies, including the U.S. Department of Homeland

Security, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and the U.S. Department of State;
and

WHEREAS, as a refugee officer, Curtis Walton traveled to multiple countries and states where he interviewed refugee and asylum applicants to determine their eligibility for immigration benefits; and

WHEREAS, at the headquarters of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Curtis Walton developed, executed, and facilitated new training programs for immigration officers across the United States; and

WHEREAS, Curtis Walton Empowers is a nonprofit organization affiliated with Bayport Credit Union that is dedicated to honoring Curtis Walton's legacy by empowering others to achieve their dreams as he did throughout his life; and,

WHEREAS, Curtis Walton, a respected public servant who's patriotic, kindness and generosity touched countless lives; a light in the dark world, showing compassion, love, and kindness to everyone he crossed paths; may each of us follow Curtis Walton's example of Letting Our Violence End (LOVE) through at least one act of kindness each day;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jason Miyares, do hereby recognize April 8, 2023 as CURTIS WALTON LOVE THROUGH KINDNESS DAY in our COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, and I call this observance to the attention of our citizens.