

## STATE OF TEXAS

## Resolution of the Texas Judicial Council

## In Honor of Chief Justice Nathan L. Hecht

WHEREAS, Chief Justice Nathan L. Hecht began his long and distinguished career in public and judicial service when he clerked for Judge Roger Robb on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Reserve Judge Advocate General's Corps; and

WHEREAS, Chief Justice Hecht began his judicial career as a district judge in Dallas County in 1981 and then as a court of appeals judge on the 5<sup>th</sup> Court of Appeals in Dallas; and

WHEREAS, in 1988 Chief Justice Hecht was elected to the Supreme Court of Texas and served as a justice on the Court until September of 2013 when he was appointed to serve as Chief Justice of the Court and has served in that position since then; and

WHEREAS, Chief Justice Hecht has been the longest-serving member of the Court in Texas history and is the longest-tenured Texas judge in active service; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the Court, Chief Justice Hecht served with 41 Supreme Court Justices, authored 802 opinions, and 169 new courts were created, including 91 district courts, 68 county courts at law, eight probate courts, one appellate court, and the Texas Business Court; and

WHEREAS, throughout his service on the Court, he has also overseen revisions to the rules of administration, practice, and procedure in Texas courts, and was appointed by the Chief Justice of the United States to the federal Advisory Committee on Civil Rules; and

WHEREAS, Chief Justice Hecht has been active in the Court's efforts to assure that Texans living below the poverty level, as well as others with limited means, have access to basic civil legal services; and

WHEREAS, as Chair of the Texas Judicial Council Chief Justice Hecht has worked tirelessly to improve the State's courts and delivery of justice; and

WHEREAS, Chief Justice Hecht will be retiring from the Court on December 31, 2024, and his wisdom, leadership, dedication, and inspiration will be missed; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Judicial Council wishes to recognize Chief Justice Hecht for his invaluable leadership and contributions as both Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Texas and Chair of the Texas Judicial Council;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Texas Judicial Council, extends its sincere gratitude for the outstanding service of Chief Justice Hecht and congratulates and wishes him the best of luck in his retirement and future endeavors.

Resolved this 13th day of December 2024.

Sharon Keller Presiding Judge

Court of Criminal Appeals

Vice-Chair, Texas Judicial Council

Megan LaVoie Executive Director

**Texas Judicial Council**