

**A RESOLUTION BY THE
FRANKLIN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
IN MEMORY OF MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE LARRY K. MEMINGER**

WHEREAS, the members of the Franklin County Bar Association have gathered in a special meeting on April 4, 2005, to celebrate the life and honor the memory of our colleague and fellow member, Larry K. Meminger, who was called home by his Almighty God on March 30, 2005; and

WHEREAS, although saddened by his death, it is our desire and our tradition to share our recollections of Larry and honor him with a memorial resolution at this special meeting; and

WHEREAS, before offering this resolution, we want to offer a brief record of his life and career.

Larry was born August 30, 1958, in Chambersburg, the son of H. Theodore Meminger and Julie Shockey Meminger. He graduated from Chambersburg High School in 1976, and earned a bachelor's degree in business and real estate from Clarion University. Following his graduation from Clarion University, he worked as an agent for the Internal Revenue Service.

Larry experienced two significant events in the spring of 1984 that changed his life for the better. He married Kindra Rotz Meminger on May 3, and on May 25, he was appointed by Governor Richard Thornburgh to replace retired District Justice Mabel Shoemaker, serving Magisterial District 39-3-04, which comprised Greene and Guilford Townships in Franklin County. He then was elected to the post in 1985, and served in that capacity until his passing. He had been elected to his fourth term in office in 2003, when his district was realigned to include Greene and Southampton Townships, the Borough of Orrstown and the Franklin County portion of the Borough of Shippensburg. In 2005, all district justices in Pennsylvania became known as magisterial district judges, better reflecting their important role in the judicial system.

In 1992, Larry and Kindra had a son, Creedon, now a seventh-grade student at Chambersburg Area Middle School. Larry was a very family-oriented man who got involved in numerous activities that interested Cree, including the Boy Scouts and events at Cree's elementary school, often organizing field trips and plans for guest speakers at the school. Cree's recent decision to join the newly formed Chambersburg Middle School lacrosse team received Larry's immediate and enthusiastic support.

Seeking new challenges, and perhaps as a natural extension of his career in the courts, Larry entered Widener University School of Law in Harrisburg, graduating on May 17, 1997. He thus became the first magisterial district judge in Franklin County to hold a law degree. He was admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania on December 12, 1997, and to the Bar of Franklin County on March 30, 1998. Larry was a member of the Franklin County Bar Association, serving on The Law and You Committee for several years and on the committee that organized the 1999 Bench-Bar Conference. He also was a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association. He was very active with The Law and You Committee, helping to organize its programs for the community and often serving as either a presenter or moderator. Most recently, he hosted at his office a seminar on wills and living trusts in October 2004 that drew more than 200 people.

Larry's law practice was a general one, and his office was located for several years at 173 Lincoln Way East, Chambersburg, in a building owned by fellow attorney David Rahauser. In January 2004, Larry formed a title and real estate settlement company in Chambersburg, Gold Star Settlement Services LLC, with fellow Magisterial District Judge and member of the bar, Richard Alloway II. In February 2005, they formed a law practice, Meminger & Alloway, focusing on business and estate matters.

While a Magisterial District Judge, Larry was a member of the Special Court Judges Association, serving as chair of its Education Committee and as an instructor for the Minor Judiciary Education Board. In that capacity, Larry was one of the first district judges his new colleagues met, and through his experience and personality, he provided a positive influence and served as a role model for those who were new to the minor judiciary.

In 2000, Larry became an initial member of the Franklin County Criminal Justice Advisory Board at the urging of his colleagues in the minor judiciary. Larry took an active role in developing and planning the concept of a central booking system for preliminary criminal proceedings in the county. In October 2002, as chair of its Central Booking Committee, Larry presented the Criminal Justice Advisory Board with a comprehensive proposal for a central booking facility, which developed into today's plans to incorporate such a facility into the construction of the new county prison. Larry agreed to continue serving as chair to facilitate further advances for central booking in relation to other improvements to the criminal justice system in Franklin County. His efforts were appreciated not only by his fellow committee members, but also by the members of the bench of the 39th Judicial District who supported his efforts. Larry's knowledge of the criminal justice system and unwavering efforts benefited the system in tangible ways, and the Criminal Justice Advisory Board feels a substantial void with his passing.

Larry's work as a teacher was not limited to educating his colleagues in the minor judiciary. He taught as an adjunct professor at Shippensburg University, the Mont Alto campus of The Pennsylvania State University, Wilson College, and the Chambersburg campus of Wilkes University. His former students remember him as someone who cared about their progress and development as students seeking careers in law and business.

An Eagle Scout, Larry helped start the Fayetteville Volunteer Fire Company's Junior Members program as a part of his Eagle Scout final project. He continued to support Boy Scouts of America Troop 127 and was a life member of the Fayetteville Volunteer Fire Company. He also was a member of the Presbyterian Church of the Falling Spring, and General James Chambers Lodge 801 F&AM. He was an active member of the Chambersburg YMCA with added participation in its Squash Club.

Larry's hard work and devotion to improving the minor judiciary system and his treatment of the attorneys and citizens who appeared before him has been remembered by his colleagues in the past few days as well. Throughout his twenty-plus years as a Magisterial District Judge, he presided over countless cases, both civil and criminal, assuring every party a fair hearing and reasoned judgment. He extended courtesy to all and garnered respect from those who appeared before him and sought his advice. He volunteered his efforts to the minor judiciary, the bar association and the community with great enthusiasm.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Franklin County Bar Association express our sympathy at the loss of Magisterial District Judge Larry K. Meminger, a husband, father, colleague and attorney at law. We will strive to keep his memory alive, for the strength, dedication and wisdom of those who have gone before us are the foundation for our future.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn D. Meyers
Member, Memorial Resolutions Committee
Franklin County Bar Association