

# Proclamation

- Whereas,* Ralph Karpinos was appointed Chapel Hill Town Attorney in the fall of 1985 and served the Town faithfully in that capacity for 35 years, retiring on August 31, 2020; and
- Whereas,* along with seven years as an Assistant Town Attorney for the City of Winston-Salem, Ralph has provided more than four decades of public service to North Carolina municipalities; and
- Whereas,* during his tenure, he has been a valued legal advisor to eight Chapel Hill mayors, five Chapel Hill Town Managers and more than 50 Chapel Hill Town Council members; and
- Whereas,* during this time, Ralph has earned a reputation as a highly respected attorney and a leader in local government law who is willing and able to provide invaluable guidance to elected and appointed leaders in the Chapel Hill community and beyond; and
- Whereas,* Ralph has applied his knowledge on legal cases within all levels of our State's judicial system – including more than 20 cases in the North Carolina appellate courts; and
- Whereas,* several of his appellate cases have had significant influence on municipal law, local government powers and the legal relationship between the state and its municipalities; and
- Whereas,* Ralph has, also, built a body of legal expertise on North Carolina municipal governing and operations that is hard to match; and
- Whereas,* he has supported regional and statewide collaboration by consulting on proposed and pending legislation with others, including the North Carolina Metropolitan Mayors Coalition and the North Carolina League of Municipalities; and
- Whereas,* with Ralph's guidance, Chapel Hill has been a state leader on so many things from the development of planning management tools to the creation of the only plan for locally supported and run public financing of elections in the history of North Carolina; and
- Whereas,* in addition to his service to the Town of Chapel Hill, Ralph is past president of the North Carolina Association of Municipal Attorneys and past chair of the Government and Public Sector Section of the North Carolina Bar Association; and
- Whereas,* he also mentored and provided career advice to young lawyers and attorneys interested in changing their practice focus; and
- Whereas,* Ralph's service to the Town of Chapel Hill, the Triangle region and the State of North Carolina will continue to provide a strong legal foundation and a broad impact long after his retirement; and
- Whereas,* in his work with elected officials, Town staff and others, Ralph has demonstrated strong commitment to the values of our Town, including social justice and equity, and shown himself to be a person of high integrity and ethics.

Now therefore, in honor of his exemplary service and in appreciation for his 35 years of legal guidance to Town of Chapel Hill, we the Chapel Hill Town Council, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, September 9th, 2020 to be

## Ralph Karpinos Day

in the Town of Chapel Hill and urge everyone to show their appreciation to Ralph for all that he has done for our community.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE TOWN OF  
CHAPEL HILL, ON THIS THE FOURTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER IN  
THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY.