



CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:

VIRGINIA PARALEGALS' WEEK

WHEREAS, legal assistants and paralegals provide skilled and essential professional services to licensed attorneys throughout Virginia; and

WHEREAS, legal assistants and paralegals receive formal education and training and gain valuable experience working under the supervision of licensed attorneys; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Alliance of Paralegal Associations (VAPA) issues educational standards and professional guidelines to ensure that legal assistants are competent and knowledgeable about their field; and

WHEREAS, the research and administrative duties performed by legal assistants and paralegals are essential to the ability of attorneys to provide their clients with quality legal services and representation; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Alliance of Paralegal Associations' member organizations sponsor educational programs, seminars and forums designed to bring legal assistants and paralegals together to exchange ideas and methods used in their occupation; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Alliance of Paralegal Associations encourages legal assistants and paralegals to adhere to a high degree of ethical and professional conduct and proficiency by issuing a code of ethics for legal assistants and paralegals to practice; and

WHEREAS, paralegal professionals from across the Commonwealth of Virginia will recognize October 2-8, 2011 as Virginia Paralegals Week;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert F. McDonnell, do hereby recognize **VIRGINIA PARALEGALS' WEEK** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens; and

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Lesser Seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia this 15th day of September 2011.




Governor


Secretary of the Commonwealth