# PROCLAMATION

## A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

### NORTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL BRANCH

## RECOVERY COURT MONTH

THE FIRST RECOVERY COURT IN NORTH CAROLINA WAS CREATED IN 1995. IN RECOGNITION OF THE SUCCESSFUL OPERATION OF RECOVERY COURTS IN NORTH CAROLINA FOR THE LAST 30 YEARS, THE MONTH OF MAY IS HEREBY DECLARED "RECOVERY COURT MONTH" FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL BRANCH.

**WHEREAS**, RECOVERY COURTS HAVE BEEN RESTORING LIVES AND FAMILIES IN NORTH CAROLINA FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS; AND

**WHEREAS**, THE OVERALL GOAL OF NORTH CAROLINA'S RECOVERY COURTS IS TO SIGNIFICANTLY BREAK THE CYCLE OF ADDICTION THAT GIVES RISE TO REPEATED LAW-BREAKING EPISODES; AND

**WHEREAS**, RECOVERY COURTS REPRESENT A CORNERSTONE OF JUSTICE REFORM ACROSS THE NATION; AND

**WHEREAS**, RECOVERY COURTS HAVE SERVED MORE THAN 1.5 MILLION INDIVIDUALS NATIONWIDE; AND

**WHEREAS**, THEY ARE NOW RECOGNIZED AS A VERY SUCCESSFUL JUSTICE SYSTEM INNOVATION; AND

**WHEREAS**, THEY SAVE AN AVERAGE OF $6,000 FOR EVERY INDIVIDUAL THEY SERVE ACCORDING TO NATIONAL AVERAGES; AND

**WHEREAS**, NATIONAL RESEARCH SHOWS THAT RECOVERY COURTS SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER RECOVERY OUTCOMES, SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE ADDICTION AND RELATED CRIME, AND DO SO AT LESS EXPENSE THAN ANY OTHER CRIMINAL JUSTICE STRATEGY; AND

**WHEREAS**, RECOVERY COURTS IMPROVE EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING, AND FINANCIAL STABILITY, PROMOTE FAMILY REUNIFICATION, REDUCE FOSTER CARE PLACEMENTS, AND INCREASE THE INCIDENCE OF HEALTHY DRUG-FREE BIRTHS; AND

**WHEREAS**, RECOVERY COURTS FACILITATE COMMUNITY-WIDE PARTNERSHIPS, BRINGING TOGETHER PUBLIC SAFETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONALS.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THAT THE MONTH OF MAY 2026 AS "RECOVERY COURT MONTH" FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL BRANCH.

THIS THE 4TH DAY OF MAY, 2026.

Paul Newby

PAUL NEWBY, CHIEF JUSTICE
SUPREME COURT *of* NORTH CAROLINA