

RESOLUTION
American Association for Justice
Board of Governors
Honoring the Life and Service of Ronald L. Motley

WHEREAS, Ron Motley was one of the great trial lawyer pioneers of the past half century; and

WHEREAS, Ron Motley was a beloved member of the American Association for Justice (formerly ATLA®) for nearly forty years and a distinguished member of its Board of Governors for longer than three decades; and

WHEREAS, Ron Motley was the recipient of AAJ's highest honors, including the Harry Philo Award in 1998, the David Shrager Award in 2007, and a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2010; and was, in 2013, awarded the Founders Award, the highest honor of the South Carolina Association for Justice; and

WHEREAS, Ron Motley was a proud graduate of the University of South Carolina and the University of South Carolina School of Law; and served his country with great distinction as a member of the United States Air Force; and

WHEREAS, Ron Motley fearlessly established the legal liability of tobacco companies and asbestos manufacturers at a time in history when seeking justice against these powerful interests was considered tilting at windmills; and

WHEREAS, Ron Motley brilliantly engaged the civil justice system in the fight to bankrupt international terrorism, as lead counsel in cutting edge cases on behalf of the victims of September 11 and as the architect of the landmark action against the financial sponsors of Hamas and other terrorist organizations in Israel; and

WHEREAS, Ron Motley was a leader of the organized bar, as a Past President of the South Carolina Association for Justice; as chair of AAJ's Asbestos Litigation Group for thirty four years; as a longstanding member of the Inner Circle of Advocates, and as a prominent member of the American Bar Association and International Academy of Trial Lawyers; and

WHEREAS, Ron Motley was a gifted mentor to young lawyers, who instilled in so many young attorneys a passion to advocate for the wrongly injured; and

WHEREAS, Ron Motley was an honored civic leader, who founded the Mark Elliot Motley Association for the benefit of children and young adults throughout South Carolina; and was the recipient of numerous civic awards, including the President's Award from the National Association of Attorneys General and the Youth Advocate of the Year Award from the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the American Association for Justice express their heartfelt appreciation for the life and work of Ron Motley and extend their deepest sympathy to his beloved family, including his wife Stephanie, his daughter Jennifer, his sister Susan, his three grandchildren, his dedicated assistant Carolyn James, and his grieving partners and friends.

Burton LeBlanc
President
American Association for Justice

Linda Lipsen
CEO
American Association for Justice