

Knights of Columbus
St Andrew Council 9868
RESOLUTION OF ENDORSEMENT

WHEREAS, David Pels, a member of St. Andrew Counsel 9868 in good standing has announced he will seek election to the office of State Advocate of the Texas State Council; and,

WHEREAS, David has been and continues to be, a practical Catholic, having grown up in Pilot Point, Texas, and is currently a member of St. Andrew parish in Fort Worth, Texas; and,

WHEREAS, as the State Advocate for the Texas State Council, and as Vice President-Legal, State Council Charities, David has served with distinction and integrity during Fraternal Years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024, and has been asked by the State Deputy to provide legal and fraternal guidance throughout Texas to brothers, councils, chapters, and diocese, on all manner of issues pertaining to the Order and Constitution in a fraternal manner providing solutions to resolve conflict while complying with Order, State, and Federal laws; and,

WHEREAS, David has served the Order in other elected and appointed positions, including: Committeeman on the Texas State Council Legal Affairs Committee during the 2021-2022 Fraternal Year, under the direction of the State Advocate; Council 9868 as Recorder, Treasurer, Deputy Grand Knight, Grand Knight, and Trustee; James Gallagher Assembly as Scribe, Faithful Pilot, Faithful Captain, Faithful Navigator, Faithful Admiral, and Faithful Trustee; and,

WHEREAS, David joined the order on July 1, 1988 as a First Degree Member; became a Second Degree Member on August 18, 1988; and a Third Degree Member on September 18, 1988; was a Charter Member of St. Andrew Council 9868 when it was formed during 1988; and while Grand Knight, helped lead Council 9868 to two consecutive Star Council awards during Fraternal Years 2011-2012 and 2012-2013; and,

WHEREAS, David joined the Fourth Degree on September 13, 2008 as a Member of General Worth Assembly 1089; became a Charter Member of the James Gallagher Assembly 3222 during 2010 and its Charter Scribe; and while Faithful Navigator, from July 2015 to June 2017, helped lead Assembly 3222 to the Star Assembly Award; and,

WHEREAS, David has served the Western Metroplex Chapter, Fort Worth, as Youth Program Chair from July 2017 to June 2019; Assistant Diocesan Deputy, Programs, from July 2019 to June 2022; and District Deputy, from 2019 to June 2022, during which time District 32 achieved the Star District Award, with all Councils in the District achieving Star Council status; and,

WHEREAS, David has been a member of St. Andrew Parish in Fort Worth since January 1, 1985; that during that time, he served on Parish committees; that he has been an

Extraordinary Minister of Communion and Lector in the Reader Ministry for more than eleven years; and, that he has served and still serves as a Hospitality Minister; and,

WHEREAS, David served as an elected member of the Saint Andrew School (SAS) Advisory Council for a three year term from 2006 to 2009, during which he served as Secretary and President and on the SAS Principal Search Committee; and,

WHEREAS, David served as a Captain in the United States Army, Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAGC) from 1980 to 1984; as a Trial Counsel, or criminal prosecutor, from 1980 to 1983 while stationed in West Germany, in Darmstadt, with the 32nd Army Air Defense Command (AADCOM) (1980-1982), and as Office Chief, Wildflecken Legal Center, Wildflecken Legal Community, V Corps (1982-1983); and as Appellate Defense Counsel, for the US Army Legal Services Agency, Falls Church, Virginia; and was honorably discharged in 1984 with the ARCOM with Oak Leaf Cluster; and,

WHEREAS, David has been married to Susan for thirty-five years, and they are the proud parents of three adult children, Caroline, Hayden, and Harrison; and,

WHEREAS, David attended Loyola University, New Orleans, from 1972 to 1976, on a Four Year Army ROTC Scholarship, during which time he was a Resident Assistant for two years; was a University Fellow; and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in History, cum laude; attended Loyola University School of Law, New Orleans, from 1976 to 1979, and graduated with a Juris Doctor degree (JD); and,

WHEREAS, David was admitted to the State Bar of Texas in 1979, and is licensed to practice in all Courts in the State of Texas; is in good standing with the State Bar of Texas; has been admitted to practice before the US Supreme Court, the US Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit, and the US District Courts for the Northern, Southern, Eastern, and Western Districts of Texas, and the Western District of Oklahoma; and,

WHEREAS, David has been practicing law for more than forty-four years; has been rated AV Pre-eminent by the legal rating agency, Martindale-Hubble, for the last twenty-five years; is a member in good standing of the College of the State Bar of Texas; is a Life Fellow of the State Bar Foundation; a Charter Life Fellow of the Tarrant County Bar Foundation; and, a member of the Tarrant County Bar Association, where he served on the Election Committee for a three year term from 2014 to 2017 (Chair 2016-2017); and,


WHEREAS, After being honorably discharged from the US Army, David has practiced law with three law firms in Fort Worth, primarily in civil litigation, with jury and non-jury trials in both State and Federal Courts; as an associate with Hudson, Keltner, Smith, Brants & Sparks (Hudson Keltner) from 1984 to 1989; as a partner with Shannon, Gracey, Ratliff & Miller, LLP (Shannon Gracey) from 1989 to 2016; and, as a partner with Brown, Proctor & Howell, LLP (Brown Proctor), from 2017 to the present; and,

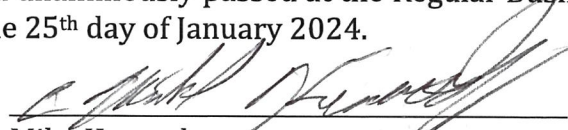
WHEREAS, David was a member representative for Shannon Gracey in the Cowtown Executive Association (CEA) from its creation in September 1995 until December 2016, serving as its initial Chairman of the Board, and as its President; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that St. Andrew Council 9868 endorses the nomination and election of Brother David Pels to the office of State Advocate for the Texas State Council or any Officer position of the Texas State Council; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we draw attention to his outstanding leadership, commitment to the Principles of our Order, the dedicated years of service to the Knights of Columbus, our Church, and Community to the Councils of the State of Texas, the Military and their delegates to the 120th Annual Texas State Convention to be held in Houston, Texas.

This Resolution of Endorsement was duly and unanimously passed at the Regular Business Meeting of St. Andrew Council 9868 on this the 25th day of January 2024.


Richard Acosta
Grand Knight


Mike Kennedy
Financial Secretary