

## PROCLAMATION

*WHEREAS, access to justice is a fundamental and essential right in a democratic society; and*

*WHEREAS, many people cannot afford the high cost of legal representation and cannot proceed on their own without an attorney; and*

*WHEREAS, legal services agencies, the State Bar of New Mexico, and local bar associations throughout New Mexico have enlisted the services of volunteer attorneys to provide valuable legal services to those in need; and*

*WHEREAS, in New Mexico, volunteer attorneys donate thousands of pro bono hours each year; and*

*WHEREAS, the innumerable contributions of volunteer attorneys enable many people to obtain legal assistance they could not otherwise obtain; and*


*WHEREAS, during October 25 – 31, 2009, businesses, government agencies and community organizations will be celebrating “New Mexico Pro Bono Week”; and*

*WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of New Mexico has declared the week of October 26<sup>th</sup> to be Pro Bono Week and has recognized the importance of volunteer lawyers in providing legal services to low income people; and*

*NOW, THEREFORE, We, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Las Cruces do hereby proclaim October 25 – 31, 2009 as:*

### **“CELEBRATE PRO BONO WEEK”**

*and urge all members of our community to recognize the contributions of our legal community to help those most in need.*

  
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**Ken D. Miyagishima, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

  
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**Esther Martinez, City Clerk**

