



Tennessee Senate

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should specially recognize those individuals who have brought honor and inspiration to their profession; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy individual is John I. Harris III, who has served for twenty years as the executive director of the Tennessee Firearms Association; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harris was one of twelve founding members of the Tennessee Firearms Association, which was established in 1995; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Vanderbilt University, John I. Harris earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology and classical studies in 1983 and a Juris Doctorate in 1986; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harris specializes in firearms and explosives law, including Second Amendment rights; operation and use of firing ranges; regulations of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms; governmental license revocation proceedings; restoration of civil rights; and denial or revocation of civilian handgun permits; and

WHEREAS, as the executive director of the Tennessee Firearms Association, he has worked tirelessly to strengthen Tennessee's Second Amendment laws, and he has served as the registered lobbyist for the Tennessee Firearms Association Legislative Action Committee and as a legal consultant for four of the National Rifle Association's Institute for Legislative Action lobbyists in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a leader among his peers, John Harris has taught continuing legal education courses on firearms law and has given lectures on issues involving Tennessee's civilian handgun permit laws, firearms ownership, constitutional legislative processes, and the civil and criminal aspects pertaining to the defensive use of deadly force; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harris is the author of several publications, notably *Carrying a Handgun for Self Defense in Tennessee*; and


WHEREAS, his professional achievements aside, John Harris is perhaps most proud of the love and support he receives from his wife, Laura, and their children, Mark and Rachel; and

WHEREAS, the members of this legislative body are especially proud to recognize this remarkable individual for his extraordinary contributions to the legal field and this State; now, therefore,

I, Ron Ramsey, Speaker of the Senate of the One Hundred Ninth General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, at the request of and in conjunction with Senator Mae Beavers, do hereby proclaim that we recognize and commend John I. Harris III for his twenty years of service to the Tennessee Firearms Association and extend to him our best wishes for his continued success in all his future endeavors.

Proclaimed in Nashville, Tennessee, on this the 15th day of September 2015.




Ron Ramsey
Speaker of the Senate


Mae Beavers, Senator
17th Senate District