

# Proclamation

## General Aviation Appreciation Month—January 2016

*Whereas*, West Virginia General Aviation and local airports play a critical role in the lives of our citizens, businesses, communities and the State of West Virginia; and

*Whereas*, according to the WVDOT Aeronautics Commission, West Virginia is home to 17 General Aviation Airports. According to the FAA, West Virginia airports support 1,806 pilots and 855 active general aviation aircrafts; and

*Whereas*, General Aviation benefits West Virginia through corporate, private, charter and air taxi travel; shipping and express air freight services; firefighting; public safety and law enforcement; weather and traffic reporting; and recreation and tourism; and

*Whereas*, General Aviation plays a vital role in the State's response to natural disasters, medical emergencies, search and rescue operations and a wide range of critical resources; and

*Whereas*, with the State's geography, large numbers of businesses and communities depend on General Aviation aircrafts for access to medical treatment, economic opportunity and communication; and

*Whereas*, West Virginia has significant interest in the continued vitality of General Aviation, the aerospace industry, West Virginia airports, aircraft manufacturing and repair stations, and aviation education; and

*Whereas*, West Virginia provides access for businesses and tourists to isolated areas, enabling businesses to remain part of the nation's Air Transportation System and connected to the global marketplace ; and

*Whereas*, the use of General Aviation by businesses and farms in West Virginia is directly tied to the future growth and prosperity of the State; and

Whereas, the nation's aviation infrastructure represents an important public benefit, and Congressional oversight should be in place to ensure stable funding of this system;

*Now Therefore Be It Resolved*, that I, George Karos, Mayor of Martinsburg in the State of West Virginia hereby proclaim January 2016 as:

### General Aviation Appreciation Month

in the City of Martinsburg and encourage all citizens to recognize the vital strategic resource that aviation is in West Virginia

Signed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016

Attest:

  
Gena Long, City Recorder



  
Mayor George Karos