

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**CITY OF CHARLESTON**

**PROCLAMATION**

**By the Mayor**

**WHEREAS:** General aviation and local airports play a critical role in the lives of our citizens, as well as in the operation of our businesses, industry, and farms in West Virginia which is directly tied to the future growth and prosperity of the State; and

**WHEREAS:** Aviation in West Virginia supports 5,300 jobs in the state resulting in \$256 million in labor income. In addition, general aviation contributes over \$1 billion to the state's total economic output annually; 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 aircraft; and

**WHEREAS:** General Aviation benefits WV through corporate, private, charter, and air taxi travel; shipping and express air freight services; firefighting; public safety and law enforcement; weather and traffic reporting; recreation and tourism. Also 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:** West Virginia has a significant interest in the continued vitality of General Aviation, the aerospace industry, WV 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 world's global marketplace; and

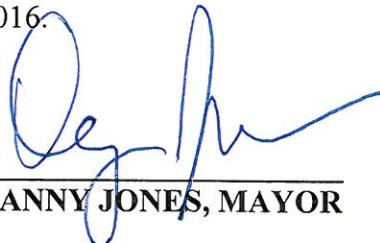
**WHEREAS:** The nation's aviation infrastructure represents an important public benefit, and Congressional oversight should be in place to ensure stable funding of this system.

**NOW THEREFORE, I, Danny Jones, Mayor of the City of Charleston, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2016 as**

**GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH**

in Charleston, West Virginia

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 28<sup>th</sup> day of September 2016.**

  
**DANNY JONES, MAYOR**