

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

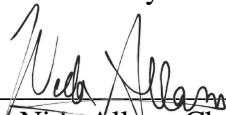
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**HONORING THE LIVES AND LEGACY OF DEAH SHADDY BARAKAT,
YUSOR MOHAMMAD ABU-SALHA, AND RAZAN MOHAMMAD ABU-SALHAON
THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR PASSING**


- WHEREAS,** on February 10, 2015, the Durham County community suffered an unspeakable tragedy when three bright, compassionate, and dedicated young Muslim Americans—Deah Shaddy Barakat, Yusor Mohammad Abu-Salha, and Razan Mohammad Abu-Salha—were senselessly murdered in Durham County; and
- WHEREAS,** Deah, Yusor, and Razan lived lives filled with love, generosity, and a deep commitment to serving others, demonstrating the best of what it means to be engaged and compassionate members of the Durham community; and
- WHEREAS,** Deah Barakat, a devoted husband, brother, son, and friend, was a dental student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, who dedicated his life to providing free dental care to those in need, both locally and internationally, including through humanitarian work with Syrian refugees; and
- WHEREAS,** Yusor Mohammad Abu-Salha, a loving wife, daughter, sister, and role model, was preparing to follow in Deah’s footsteps by pursuing dental studies at UNC-Chapel Hill, while passionately engaging in community service and interfaith outreach; and
- WHEREAS,** Razan Mohammad Abu-Salha, a beloved daughter, sister, and friend, was a talented architecture and design student at North Carolina State University, whose artistic vision and generous spirit were reflected in her commitment to philanthropy and mentorship; and
- WHEREAS,** their lives were guided by their faith, their love for family and friends, and their unwavering belief in justice, equality, and the power of community service; and
- WHEREAS,** Deah, Yusor, and Razan were proud Muslim Americans who embraced their faith as a source of strength and inspiration, advocating for inclusivity, service, and justice while demonstrating the rich contributions of Muslim Americans to society; and
- WHEREAS,** their tragic deaths underscored the importance of standing against all forms of hate, intolerance, and violence, while reaffirming our community’s commitment to love, acceptance, and unity; and
- WHEREAS,** their legacy continues to inspire countless individuals through initiatives such as the Deah, Yusor, and Razan Memorial Fund, as well as organizations like the Our Three Winners Foundation and the Light House Project, which carry forward their dedication to service, education, and community support; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Durham County Board of Commissioners does hereby honor and celebrate the lives of Deah Shaddy Barakat, Yusor Mohammad Abu-Salha, and Razan Mohammad Abu-Salha on the 10th anniversary of their passing, recognizing their lasting impact on our community and beyond, and reaffirming our commitment to fostering a more just, inclusive, and compassionate society in their memory.

This the 10th day of February 2025.



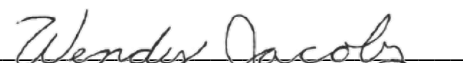
Nida Allam, Chair



Dr. Mike Lee, Vice Chair



Michelle Burton, Commissioner



Wendy Jacobs, Commissioner



Stephen Valentine, Commissioner

