

***RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION FOR
ROBERT COHEN UPON HIS RETIREMENT
FROM THE CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS***

WHEREAS, Robert Michael Cohen migrated to California from New York to pursue his education and raise his young daughter Brooke. He attended Santa Barbara City College where he studied History and received his Associates Degree in Automotive Technology. Robert then transferred to the University of California, Santa Barbara receiving his Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Studies; and

WHEREAS, Robert began his career with Santa Barbara County on March 27, 1987 when he was hired as a Word Processor I in the Purchasing Department. In October of 1989 Robert transferred to the Clerk of the Board Office as a Board Clerk I and was immediately recognized by his peers for his commitment to team work. Robert was given an advanced step appointment to Board Clerk II in September of 1990; was appointed as a Board Assistant Specialist in December of 1991, a Departmental Assistant in October of 1998, A Departmental Assistant Senior in November, 2005 and an Administrative Office Professional Expert in May of 2008; and

WHEREAS, Shortly after his move to the Clerk of the Board, Robert was tasked with the management of the County Assessment Appeals Program. Over the next 22 years he deftly and professionally conducted approximately 450 meetings of the Assessment Appeals Boards including regular and organizational meetings as well as status conferences, pre-hearings and regular hearings related to complex cases. These included some of the most labyrinthine in County history such as the legendary Exxon case that required several weeks of hearings alone; and

WHEREAS, Robert is a proud, loving, and devoted father to his daughter Brooke and son-in-law Donny, and grandfather to Molly and Jasper, who have given Robert bragging rights for being ambitious, intelligent, athletically accomplished, and artistic individuals. Robert is known by his co-workers as being altruistic, dedicating his life's work to public service without any expectation of award, all while spending his free time reading as many books as the library will let him check out at any given time, making him a wealth of knowledge and an optimal trivia partner; and

WHEREAS, Robert, a walker of legendary proportions, has no problem taking off and walking 10 to 14 miles a day, sometimes covering 100 miles a week. In fact, he once walked nearly 420 miles in one month. While blazing new trails with Nacho, his faithful canine side-kick, he amasses a seemingly endless portfolio of photographs. His free spirited nature is by no means discouraged when suspected of trespassing based on his appearance alone while he fulfills his goal to tread foot on every trail, street and path in the County.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors commends Robert Michael Cohen for his 32 years of faithful and distinguished service to the citizens of Santa Barbara County, and wishes him many more years of peaceful walks, good health and happiness.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 19th day of March, 2019, by unanimous vote of all members present.