SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
BOARD AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 9/29/03
Department Name: Public Defender
Department No.: 023
Agenda Date: 10/14/03
Placement: Departmental
Estimate Time: 5 minutes
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: James S. Egar
Public Defender

STAFF CONTACT: Nancy Ramirez
568-3474

SUBJECT: Retirement of Robert L. Helgesen

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:
Adopt a resolution to recognize retired Assistant Public Defender, Robert L. Helgesen, after 32 years of service with the county.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:
The recommendation(s) are primarily aligned with Goal No. 3. Strengthen the County's Administration and Organization.

Executive Summary and Discussion:
It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors commend Robert L. Helgesen for his 32 years of committed public service and his contributions to the Public Defender's Office as well as the County of Santa Barbara. Mr. Helgesen was first employed by the county in 1972 as a Deputy Public Defender. He left in 1981 to enter into private practice for a brief 5 years and then in 1986 returned to the County of Santa Barbara and rose to the position of Assistant Public Defender until his retirement in May 2003. Mr. Helgesen has represented thousands of clients over his career as a defense attorney, has overseen construction of the new Lompoc and Santa Maria Offices, and has been involved in the creation, planning and implementation of the Therapeutic Courts. This department would like to honor Mr. Helgesen for his dedication and relentless commitment to the defense of the indigent.

Mandates and Service Levels:

No change to programs or service level.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

There is no fiscal and facilities impact.

Special Instructions:

Supervisor Joni Gray will be the sponsor for this resolution.

Concurrence:

None