

**RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE SERVICE OF
JOHN ABRAHAM "ABE" POWELL ON THE
MONTECITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

WHEREAS, John Abraham "Abe" Powell was first elected to the Montecito Fire Protection District Board of Directors in the General Election of 2012 and, during his 12 years of service as a director, he has demonstrated an unparalleled level of commitment to organizing and informing the community he serves far beyond what is typical and expected of any elected official; and

WHEREAS, prior to his election to the Montecito Fire Protection District Board of Directors, Abe served 14 years as president of the local environmental advocacy non-profit Get Oil Out, spent five years as the president of the Mountain Drive Community Association, and five years as a Mountain Drive Brush 6 volunteer firefighter; and

WHEREAS, Abe joined the Board of Directors of the Montecito Fire Protection District during a time in which many members of the Montecito community were still attempting to rebuild after the devastating 2008 Tea Fire and, during his time of service on the Board, Abe would support the District through even greater and more unprecedented challenges, including the 2017-18 Thomas Fire and subsequent debris flows and the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Abe Powell is a community organizer at his core and responded as such in times of disaster putting in countless hours to personally notify residents of the numerous evacuations that have been issued for Montecito in the wake of the 1/9 debris flows and leading a grassroots effort to dig his neighbors out of devastation by creating the Santa Barbara Bucket Brigade with his wife, Jessica; and

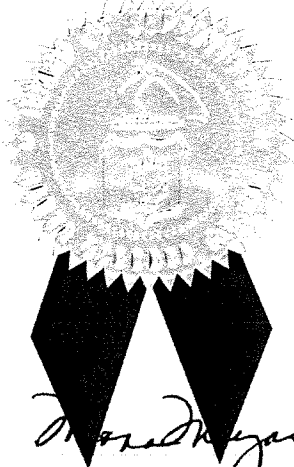
WHEREAS, in the nearly six years since the Thomas Fire and debris flows, Abe has harnessed the community energy and spirit of collaboration that existed in those early post-disaster months through the Santa Barbara Bucket Brigade into volunteer-led community betterment projects, including walking paths and community gardens; and

WHEREAS, Abe's recognitions for his exceptional service to the community include the 2018 Montecito Association Citizen of the Year and the 2019 Environmental Defense Center Environmental Hero Award; and

WHEREAS, Abe will surely continue to give his time and energy to his community following the completion of his service on the Montecito Fire Protection District Board of Directors and this is merely a recognition and celebration of his remarkable efforts as both an elected official and community member thus far.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors acknowledges John Abraham "Abe" Powell's contributions to the well-being of our community and expresses our deepest appreciation for his years of dedicated service on the Montecito Fire Protection District Board of Directors.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 10th day of December 2024, by unanimous vote of all members present.



Pasquillo

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Joan Hartman

Bob M

Thomas M. Gassett