

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION HONORING
THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT
ON THEIR CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION AND PROCLAIMING
JULY 19 – 25, 2009 AS "PROBATION, PAROLE & COMMUNITY
SUPERVISION OFFICERS' WEEK"

CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, in 1909, Myra Morgan, a school teacher who had long been committed to underprivileged children, was appointed as the first Probation Officer of Santa Barbara County, serving from 1909 - 1910; and

WHEREAS, in 1913, Chief Otto Kramer started a detention program for delinquents and in 1927opened a shelter for dependent youth. Chief W.F. Gunnerson established Los Prietos Boys Camp in 1944, and by the 1950's, Santa Barbara Juvenile Hall was operational and Adult and Juvenile Probation Field Offices were located in the three regions of the County. In 1963, Chief Clifford C. Romer opened La Morada commitment facility for girls, and the Santa Maria Juvenile Hall opened in 1977. In 1978, Proposition 13, resulted in a 12.5% budget reduction and the loss of 29 staff and related services. Under the leadership of Chief Susan Gionfriddo (1988-2005), the Department entered a period of innovation and collaboration. In 2005, under Chief R. Scott DeuPree, the Susan J. Gionfriddo Juvenile Justice Center was occupied, and in 2007, Patricia J. Stewart was sworn in as Chief Probation Officer by The Honorable Arthur A. Garcia, and together with a dedicated Department have reorganized operations, expanded automation, and consolidated and developed new programs to meet unprecedented client needs and fiscal challenges; and

WHEREAS, during the Department's 100-years of service, Probation's role evolved dramatically and the Department became an integral aspect of local law enforcement and the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, the Probation Department today consists of over 375 dedicated professionals working collaboratively with other agencies and community partners to deliver evidence-based programs to adult and juvenile offenders, while focusing on the enhancement of safety, the reduction of recidivism, the protection and compensation of victims, and the promotion of crime prevention services, intervention, rehabilitation, and restorative justice principles; and

WHEREAS, the Department's sworn and non-sworn staff possess and display a high degree of professionalism, commitment and pride in the work they perform for the Courts, in the Institutions, in the field, and within each of the regional offices, while striving to guide and direct offenders to become productive and successful citizens; and

WHEREAS, Probation Officers and Juvenile Institutions Officers locally supervise approximately 6,000 adult probation cases and 1,200 juvenile offenders at any given time; and

WHEREAS, during the week of July 19 - 25, 2009, the County of Santa Barbara and the Probation Department will join with other criminal justice and juvenile justice professionals, and communities across America to celebrate "Probation, Parole & Community Supervision Officers' Week: A Force for Positive Change."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED AND RESOLVED, that this Board of Supervisors, County of Santa Barbara, State of California, hereby proclaims the week of July 19 - 25, 2009 as "Probation, Parole & Community Supervision Officers' Week" and recognizes these Officers for their significant contribution to making Santa Barbara County a safer place to live and herby honors the Santa Barbara County Probation Department's Centennial Celebration and recognizes the outstanding contributions made by its staff in serving our communities during the past 100 years.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California this 14th day of July, 2009 by unanimous vote of all members present.

ATTEST: Clerk of the Board

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