



Santa Barbara County of

RESOLUTION NO. 26-71

RESOLUTION HONORING
THE WORK AND LEGACY OF REVEREND J. B. FICKLIN JR.
Longest-Standing Clergy in Santa Barbara County

WHEREAS, Reverend J. B. Ficklin, Jr., a native of Clarksdale, Mississippi, journeyed to Santa Barbara, California, in 1958, bringing with him the humility, perseverance, and deep faith forged through his early years as a sharecropper in Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, on the third Sunday evening, February 20, 1966, Reverend Ficklin accepted the divine call to pastor Greater Hope Missionary Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, under his visionary and steadfast leadership, the congregation embarked upon a historic and faith-filled journey, and on the third Sunday of March 1971, marched triumphantly from 735 E. Haley Street to their new church home at 430 E. Figueroa Street; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Ficklin has faithfully served beyond the local church as a member of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., as past Vice Moderator of the Central District Association, and as both President and Vice President of the Interdenominational Federation of Churches; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Ficklin has been a tireless advocate and spiritual leader for the Black community in Santa Barbara and throughout Santa Barbara County, offering guidance, courage, and hope in times of challenge and change, with leadership extending beyond the pulpit into the broader civic life of our community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara does hereby honor Reverend J. B. Ficklin, Jr. for his extraordinary ministry, historic leadership, and unwavering commitment to faith and justice and celebrate his more than six decades of transformative service to Greater Hope Missionary Baptist Church and to the broader Santa Barbara community. His life and legacy shall remain a beacon of hope - ever steadfast, ever faithful - guiding future generations in the pursuit of unity, justice, love, and enduring faith.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 7th day of April 2026 by a unanimous vote of all members present.



Maria Rodriguez
ATTEST: Clerk of the Board

[Signature]
Supervisor - 1st District
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Supervisor - 2nd District
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Supervisor - 3rd District
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Supervisor - 4th District
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Supervisor - 5th District

