



# COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

## RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY

### AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

WHEREAS, the 2023 Santa Barbara County Theme is "Black Resistance;" and

WHEREAS, When Carter G. Woodson established Negro History week in 1926, he realized the importance of providing a theme to focus the attention of the public. The intention has never been to dictate or limit the exploration of the Black experience, but to bring to the public's attention to important developments that merit emphasis; and

WHEREAS, The 2023 theme reflects changes in how people, a part of the African diaspora in the United States and Santa Barbara County, in particular, have viewed themselves, the influence of social movements on racial ideologies, and the aspirations of the Black community; and

WHEREAS, Historically and today in the 21st century, Black people have worked to seek their rightful space in the country through legislative or judicial action to deal with controversial issues, which has often come late. The historic Executive Orders 8802 and 9346 were responses to A. Phillip Randolph and the all-Black March on Washington Movement's threat to lead a 50,000-strong Black worker's march into the Capitol. And the Civil Rights Act, the Voting Rights Act and the Fair Housing Act were concessions to the Civil Rights and Black Power movements; and

WHEREAS, Every advance, improvement in our quality of life and access to the levers of power to determine our destiny has been achieved through struggle. John Lewis advised, "Do not get lost in a sea of despair. Be hopeful, be optimistic. Our struggle is not the struggle of a day, a week, a month, or a year, it is the struggle of a lifetime. Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble;" and

WHEREAS, As societal and political forces escalate to limit access to and exercise of the ballot, eliminate the teaching of Black history, and work to push us back into the 1890s, we can only rely on our capacity to resist. The enactment of HR 40, the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, the Breathe Act, and the closure of the racial wealth gap is not the end. They too will require us to mobilize our resources, human and material, and fight for "freedom, justice, and equality"; "self-determination", and/or "social transformation;" and

WHEREAS, Black History is not just about the struggles Black families have been through, but rather it is a time of rejoicing, celebrating the accomplishments, integrity, leadership, and determination, and showing true character. We honor history and celebrate the progress that we have made. We are resilient and resolute in creating new opportunities for future generations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED** that this Board of Supervisors declares February 2023 as **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**, and calls on all residents to acknowledge and celebrate with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this Seventh of February 2023, by the unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

*Maria Preciado*  
Clerk of the Board

*Pat Williams*

Supervisor - 1st District

*LES*

Supervisor - 2nd District

*Jean Hartman*

Supervisor - 3rd District

*Bob Weber*

Supervisor - 4th District

*J. J. [Signature]*

Supervisor - 5th District