



# COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

## **RESOLUTION TO HONOR THE WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS AND HEROIC FIRE RESPONSE OF RYAN SMITH AND REMINGTON HOTCHKIS DURING THE LAKE FIRE OF JULY 2024**

**WHEREAS**, Preparedness for wildfires is essential for communities and neighborhoods to actively engage in enhancing their own safety in the event of a wildfire, readies communities to have all the tools they need in the event of an emergency, and builds resilience before disaster strikes; and

**WHEREAS**, Ryan Smith and Remington Bixby Hotchkis, as residents of the Oak Trail Estates and Woodstock Ranch neighborhoods of Santa Ynez, provided leadership in wildfire preparedness prior to the Lake Fire of July 2024, through efforts to clear vegetation and prepare evacuation plans, and to educate neighbors about how to do the same on properties throughout the neighborhood; and

**WHEREAS**, When the Lake Fire advanced upon the Oak Trail Estates and Woodstock Ranch neighborhoods, Ryan Smith and Remington Bixby Hotchkis took the lead to make sure residents were safe, provided critical time-sensitive communication to all residents, made certain evacuation orders were understood, and necessary passage for fire-fighting crews through Woodstock Ranch remained uninhibited; and

**WHEREAS**, Ryan Smith and Remington Bixby Hotchkis worked tirelessly throughout the duration of the Lake Fire to keep fire break lines clear of vegetation and other flammable materials, and aided fire crews and managers of properties adjacent to Oak Trail Estates and Woodstock Ranch in keeping the fire at bay; and

**WHEREAS**, In the aftermath of the Lake Fire, Ryan Smith and Remington Bixby Hotchkis remain committed to leading wildfire preparedness efforts in Oak Trail Estates and Woodstock Ranch, through continued vegetation management efforts and preparation of a California Fire Safe Council-certified plan for both communities;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED AND RESOLVED** that this Board of Supervisors honors Ryan Smith and Remington Bixby Hotchkis for their bravery, dedication, and leadership in keeping the Oak Trail Estates and Woodstock Ranch neighborhoods safe during the Lake Fire and preparing for wildfire safety in the future.

**Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, on this 15<sup>TH</sup> day of October 2024, by unanimous vote of all members present.**



ATTEST:

*Monroe Dreyer*  
Clerk of the Board

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 1st District

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 2nd District

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 3rd District

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 4th District

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 5th District