

# COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING  
FEBRUARY 2009 AS  
BLACK HISTORY MONTH  
IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

*WHEREAS, February is recognized as Black History Month throughout the United States and the 2009 National Theme is "The Quest for Black Citizenship in the Americas"; and*

*WHEREAS, the journey of African Americans in the United States is one of both immeasurable suffering and soaring hope born out of two and a half centuries of slavery and segregation that prevented black women and men from exercising their rights of citizenship; and*

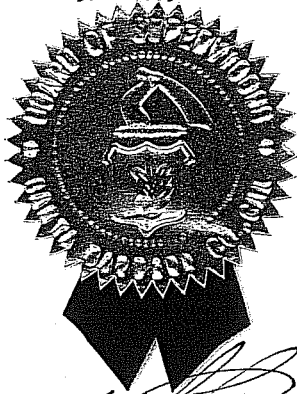
*WHEREAS, African Americans fought for freedom from tyranny abroad, yet were denied many of the rights they fought for and faced segregation in schools, public transportation, recreational facilities, and other public places. Nevertheless, African Americans persevered, building universities and achieving heights in all spheres of activity, from arts and entertainment to aviation and science; and*

*WHEREAS, in 1909, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was formed with the aim of abolishing segregation and discrimination in housing, education, employment, voting, and transportation and securing for African Americans their constitutional rights. The struggle for freedom was long and difficult and included, among other tactics, litigation, marches, and sit-ins. It was also nonviolent, a reflection of the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who came to personify the American civil rights movement; and*

*WHEREAS, January 15, 2009, marked the 80th anniversary of Dr. King's birth. Five days later, on January 20th, Americans celebrated one hard-won step in the fulfillment of his dream: Barack Obama's inauguration as the 44th president of the United States; this triumph signals the start of a new era in the civil rights movement, one in which all children can imagine the freedom to excel at anything and, in the words of Dr. King, will be judged by the content of their character rather than the color of their skin.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED** that this Board of Supervisors declares February 2009, as **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**, and calls on all residents to celebrate with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this third day of February, 2009, by the unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

*[Signature]*  
Clerk of the Board

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 1st District

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 2nd District

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 3rd District

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 4th District

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 5th District