RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION FOR DEPARTMENTAL ASSISTANT PAMELA ANN BARAJAS

WHEREAS, Pamela Ann Barajas was born in Santa Barbara, CA, and she graduated from San Marcos High School in 1968. She entered public service with the County of Santa Barbara as a Clerk Typist II, and she worked for the Auditor Controller, Social Services, and the Parks Department before beginning her career with the Santa Barbara County Probation Department in 1976. Soon thereafter, Pamela was assigned to the Villa Esperanza Counseling and Education Center where she was renowned for her initiative and for her rapport with the minors and staff. Pamela has described that assignment as an "electrifying" experience; and

WHEREAS, in 1989, Pamela promoted to Clerk Typist III and transferred to the Personnel and Training Unit. Pamela's unique ability to set new applicants at ease while they went through the background investigation process has been appreciated by many. In 1991, Pamela was promoted to Probation Assistant and her assignment in the Personnel and Training Unit expanded to include the duties of Department Safety Officer. In 1998 her position was upgraded to her current classification of Departmental Assistant in recognition of the increasing responsibility she was willing to assume. Her duties have included responsibility for the departmental safety committee, site safety inspections, workplace ergonomic evaluations, oversight of departmental compliance with OSHA regulations, as well as numerous ongoing human resources duties within the unit. Pamela has continued to have an exceptional level of interest in her work and an absolutely superior work ethic; and

WHEREAS, Pamela has served the Probation Department commendably in each of her assignments and has "modeled the way" for incoming staff by consistently displaying a willingness to meet new challenges, a professional demeanor, and team spirit in getting the job done while still having fun; and

WHEREAS, over the course of Pamela's career, staff and outside agencies have written many letters of support regarding her competency, responsiveness and cooperation. She received the Santa Barbara County Probation Department Support Staff of the Year for Santa Barbara in 1987; and

WHEREAS, Pamela is devoted to her family, including her father, Leonard Wilson; her husband, Ruben; daughter Christen and her husband Jeff; son Daniel and his wife, Shauna; sister Terri, as well as grandchildren Alexa, Talia, Jason and the newest grandson due to make his debut in May, 2004. Pamela looks forward to perfecting her own daily routine before her husband joins her in retirement. Her plans include visiting family members in Arizona and Oregon, fishing at the beach, gardening, vacationing in the Sierras, and attending Adult Education classes. Her free time may include volunteering her time to children and the elderly.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED AND RESOLVED, that this Board of Supervisors recognizes Pamela Ann Barajas for over 35 years of outstanding service to the citizens of Santa Barbara County and the Probation Department.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 23rd day of March 2004, by unanimous vote of all members present.