

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA'S COMMITMENT TO PREVENTING THE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

WHEREAS, the commercial sexual exploitation of children is a pressing national, state, and local issue. The FBI estimates that 100,000 children in the United States are sold for sex each year, including child sex trafficking, child sex tourism, and child pornography; and

WHEREAS, three of the top 13 highest trafficking areas in the nation are located in California: San Francisco, Los Angeles, and the San Diego metropolitan areas; and

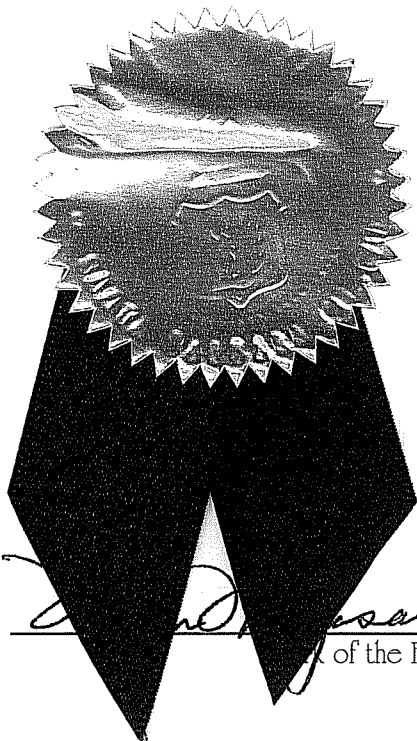
WHEREAS, County law enforcement, child welfare services, behavioral health, the courts, and community-based organizations report increasing numbers of exploited underage victims; and

WHEREAS, Counties have led the effort to address the unique needs of CSEC youth, including working with law enforcement and the courts to divert suspected exploited children. County law enforcement, child welfare services, behavioral health, the courts, and community-based organizations continue to grapple with identifying and assisting CSEC youth but have also made significant gains in meeting the unique needs of these traumatized children; and

WHEREAS, the need for intensive services tailored to minors who have been ensnared in the illegal sex trafficking trade remains critical.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors affirms its commitment to supporting strategies to prevent, reduce and serve the victims of the commercial sexual exploitation of children and work to eliminate sex trafficking in California.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, this 1st day of September 2015 by unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

[Signature]
of the Board

[Signature]
Supervisor - 1st District

[Signature]
Supervisor - 2nd District

[Signature]
Supervisor - 3rd District

[Signature]
Supervisor - 4th District

[Signature]
Supervisor - 5th District