

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA RESOLUTION COMMENDING BELINDA GONZALEZ UPON HER RETIREMENT MARCH 29, 2024

Whereas, Belinda Gonzalez's retirement from the Department of Social Services (DSS) marks thirty-one years of distinguished service to the residents and employees of the Santa Barbara County. Her career is a testament to her dedication, adaptability, and unwavering commitment serving the public and co-workers with care, professionalism, and a positive spirit; and

Whereas, Belinda began her clerical career with DSS in March 1993 as Extra Help, she gained valuable experience, contributed to the team, and her hard work paid off when she secured a permanent position as a Clerk Typist in November 1993 and in 2008 she was reclassified to Administrative Office Professional and continues in this assignment until her upcoming retirement date of March 29, 2024; and

Whereas, Belinda obtained knowledge by supporting units under various supervisors where she gained unique insights, helping her develop a well-rounded skill set; and during her tenure, Belinda has navigated three major system changes. She transitioned from Case Data Systems (CDS) to CalWIN in 2006 and to CalSAWS in 2023. Belinda's journey exemplifies continuous learning, adaptability, and dedication to her career in public service; and

Whereas, Belinda's contributions were diverse: providing unit support; organizing schedules, deadlines, and events; assisting clients with programs such as food stamps (now known as CalFresh), Medi-Cal, Aid to Families with Dependent Children (now known as CalWORKS), and General Relief; supporting Eligibility Workers in issuing assistance benefits – previously paper Medi-Cal cards and manual paper Food Stamp coupons – now debit card style Benefit Identification Cards and Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) Cards, among other data entry duties, and answering too many phone calls to count; and

Whereus, Belinda's industriousness and efficiency are commendable especially in the area of Application Registration. Her dedication to ensuring our department meets mandated deadlines, especially during busy season has been invaluable. She consistently put in extra hours to help us get caught up, making her a crucial asset to our team's success; and

Whereas, Belinda's colleagues recognize her as devoted and hardworking, a team player who willingly helps co-workers, possessing a great sense of humor and the ability to uplift morale with her infectious laugh, and someone whose presence is missed when she's not in the office. It's no surprise that in December 2023, Belinda was recognized by her peers and awarded the "MVP" title in the Santa Barbara Office; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara hereby commends BELINDA GONZALEZ for over thirty years of faithful, loyal, and committed public service to the Department of Social Services and congratulates her on a well-deserved retirement.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 19th day of March 2024, by a unanimous vote of all members present.

