

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION HONORING RAY WILLIAMS FOR HIS OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN REPRESENTING SANTA BARBARA COUNTY AND THE UNITED STATES IN THE 2025 WORLD BUTCHERS' CHALLENGE

WHEREAS, Ray Williams, a proud resident of Los Alamos, California, has dedicated over three decades of his life to the craft of butchery, beginning at the young age of 14; and

WHEREAS, Ray Williams worked diligently through his early career, including 12 years at the Vandenberg Commissary where he rose to the position of Meat Manager, and currently serves as a Vocational Training Instructor at the Federal Correctional Complex in Lompoc, teaching out-custody inmates valuable skills in butchery, retail cuts, sausage making, and further processing — operating the last meat program in the Bureau of Prisons; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, Ray Williams became involved in the World Butchers' Challenge (WBC), also known as "The Olympics of Meat," serving as Floor Manager for the competition, gaining international experience and furthering his knowledge of techniques from around the world; and

WHEREAS, based on his expertise, Williams successfully competed in a nationwide tryout to earn a coveted spot as one of six members of Butchers of America's Team USA, who proudly represented the United States at the 2025 World Butchers' Challenge in Paris, France, competing against 18 other countries; and

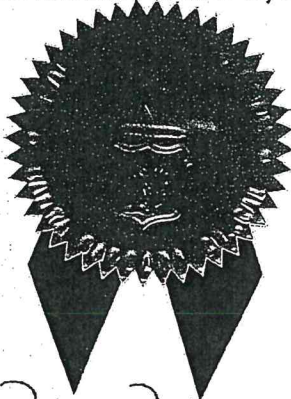
WHEREAS, Williams is the co-owner of Whisky Bent BBQ, where he shares his love of butchery and culinary excellence with the greater community, demonstrating both leadership and innovation; and

WHEREAS, through his participation in the World Butchers' Challenge, Ray Williams not only represents Los Alamos, Santa Barbara County and the United States on an international stage, but also inspires future generations of butchers, chefs, and culinary enthusiasts by showcasing skill, artistry, and teamwork; and

WHEREAS, the World Butchers' Challenge stands as a symbol of international cooperation, culinary innovation, and philanthropy — with all meat from the competition being donated to local food banks;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors recognizes and commends Ray Williams for his outstanding achievements on behalf of his Country and community in the 2025 World Butchers' Challenge.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of May, 2025, by the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors.



ATTEST:

Mona Dominguez
Clerk of the Board

Ray Lu

Supervisor - 1st District

[Signature]

Supervisor - 2nd District

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Supervisor - 3rd District

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Supervisor - 4th District

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Supervisor - 5th District