

***IN THE MATTER OF COMMENDATION AND
APPRECIATION OF RICK MERRIFIELD
FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT***

WHEREAS, Rick Merrifield's passion for public service has led him to success and fulfillment in a career that warrants both merit and appreciation; and

WHEREAS, Rick began his career with the County in 1976 as a Health Inspector in Environmental Health Services and subsequently worked in almost every program providing him broad experience in all aspects of the profession; and

WHEREAS, Rick was promoted to be Director of Environmental Health Services, serving over a total of 34 years and leading the Department's efforts to ensure and protect the safety of the citizens of Santa Barbara County; and

WHEREAS, Rick is a true visionary whose career has been guided by his belief that public service is a noble calling. He has been an effective advocate and champion for environmental health issues guided by the values of professionalism and fairness; and

WHEREAS, Rick has exemplified leadership practices of inspiring collaboration and teamwork with his colleagues in the County family and is respected for his strategic, tactical, and focused management skills; and

WHEREAS, Rick is acknowledged as a man of honor and integrity, and is admired by the employees of the Department and those in the County and the community who have been fortunate enough to work with him; and

WHEREAS, Rick has often expressed that he feels like "the luckiest man alive" to play a significant role in something that he believes in, enjoys, and makes a difference.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara commends and also honors Rick Merrifield for his many years of outstanding service to the citizens of Santa Barbara County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California this 5th day of January 2010, by a unanimous vote of all members present.