



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION HONORING THOMAS TIGHE
FOR HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE AS PRESIDENT
AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF DIRECT RELIEF

WHEREAS, Thomas Tighe has served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Direct Relief for 24 years, from October 2000 to December 2024, leading the organization through a period of extraordinary growth and impact; and

WHEREAS, under Thomas Tighe's leadership, Direct Relief has risen to become the fifth largest charity in the United States, distributing more than \$16 billion in medicines and supplies and \$350 million in grants to 136 countries and all 50 American states; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Tighe has guided Direct Relief to respond swiftly and effectively to increasingly severe natural disasters and dangerous war zones, including the ongoing war in Ukraine, where the organization's support has exceeded \$1.5 billion; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Tighe has fostered Direct Relief's strategic modernization, including the adoption of advanced technology platforms compatible with the largest healthcare companies in the world, enabling the organization to become accredited in all 50 U.S. states for distributing prescription medications; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Tighe has maintained Direct Relief's commitment to its Santa Barbara roots while expanding its global reach, demonstrating that local insights and experiences are invaluable in addressing worldwide challenges; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Tighe has upheld Direct Relief's apolitical stance and commitment to helping those in need, regardless of political circumstances, allowing the organization to provide aid even in complex geopolitical situations; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Tighe has consistently emphasized the importance of respecting and supporting local communities and organizations in Direct Relief's approach to providing aid; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Tighe is warm-hearted, engaging, humorous and self-deprecating. He has exemplified the spirit of service and dedication to improving lives around the world, inspiring others to contribute to the betterment of humanity;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County does hereby honor Thomas Tighe for his exceptional service as President and Chief Executive Officer of Direct Relief, recognizing his significant contributions to global humanitarian efforts and his role in elevating Santa Barbara's impact on the world stage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 4th day of February, 2025, by a unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

Maria Nolasco
Clerk of the Board

[Signature]
Supervisor - 1st District

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Supervisor - 2nd District

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Supervisor - 3rd District

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Supervisor - 4th District

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Supervisor - 5th District