

## COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

## RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

## CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. led a life of exemplary courage, selflessness, and personal integrity and was a leader of the U.S. Civil Rights Movement; and

WHEREAS, in 1957 Dr. King founded the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), an association dedicated to enacting and ensuring civil rights through non-violent civil disobedience principles practiced by Mahatma Gandhi; and

WHEREAS, Dr. King's 1963 "I Have a Dream" speech is remembered as a defining moment of the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's and is credited with gathering support for the passage of the Civil Rights Act along with the 1965 Voting Rights Act and other equality and social justice achievements; and

WHEREAS, in 1963, Dr. King was arrested for his participation in a rally to end segregation at lunch counters in Birmingham, Alabama. While incarcerated, he wrote Letter from Birmingham Jail, in which he powerfully articulated the founding principles and necessity of the Civil Rights Movement with his compelling words "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."

WHEREAS, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee of Santa Barbara is comprised of local residents who come together to remember and carry on Dr. King's legacy of equal rights and justice for all members of our community. The mission of the committee is to foster positive relationships between the many diverse groups in the Santa Barbara Community and the surrounding areas; to sponsor programs and events which exemplify the teachings of Dr. King and to observe and celebrate the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday; and

WHEREAS, the Martin Luther King Jr. Committee of Santa Barbara has invited all residents of Santa Barbara County to honor this year's theme "Drum Majors for Justice" and to join in a pre-march program and rally at De la Guerra Plaza on January 19th which will be followed by a unity march up State Street, to the historic Arlington Theatre to commemorate Dr. King and his commitment to justice, equality, peace, freedom, spirituality, and love and to reflect on the continued importance of Dr. King and the Civil Rights movement:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors honors and celebrates the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and encourages all residents to participate in scheduled community events.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this 20th day of January, 2015 by unanimous vote of all members present.

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