

## COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

RESOLUTION HONORING ABRAHAM H. FOXMAN UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE

## CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, Abraham H. Foxman is retiring from his position as the Executive Director of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) after 50 years of dedicated service. He joined the ADL in 1965 and has served as the National Director since 1987; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Foxman is world-renowned as a leader in the fight against anti-Semitism, bigotry and discrimination. Born in Poland in 1940, Mr. Foxman was saved from the Holocaust by his Polish Catholic nursemaid who baptized and raised him as a Catholic during the war years. His parents survived the war, but 14 members of his family were lost. He arrived in America in 1950 with his parents. A graduate of the Yeshiva of Flatbush, Brooklyn, NY, Mr. Foxman has a B.A. in political science from the City College of the City University of New York, graduating with honors in history. He holds a J.D. degree from New York University School of Law, and did graduate work in advanced Judaic studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary and in international economics at The New School for Social Research. He is the author of several books and recipient of numerous awards and honorary degrees; and

WHEREAS, in the forefront of major issues of the day, including the rise of global anti-Semitism, the war on terrorism, church/state issues, religious intolerance and issues relating to the Holocaust, Mr. Foxman consistently speaks out against hatred and violence wherever they occur; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Foxman regularly confers with elected officials and community leaders here and abroad. He has had consultations in Europe, Russia, Israel, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, China, Japan, South Africa and Argentina, and with Palestinian leaders, on problems of ethnic hatred, violence, terrorism and promoting democracy. He has had multiple audiences with Pope John Paul II, with Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis. Mr. Foxman is a passionate supporter of the State of Israel and a voice for peace in the Middle East; and

WHEREAS, a Holocaust survivor, Mr. Foxman was a member of the President's United States Holocaust Memorial Council, appointed by Presidents Reagan, Bush and Clinton. He has been a participant of official Presidential delegations to special events in Europe and Israel.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors honors Abraham H. Foxman for 50 years of dedicated service in the fight against anti-Semitism, bigotry, and discrimination.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this  $17^{th}$  day of February 2015 by a unanimous vote of all members present.

