19-000AE

Resolution No. 19-4

2019 JAN -2 PH 12-2

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION FOR LEA VILLEGAS **EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH** SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, JANUARY 2019

WHEREAS, Lea Villegas, a graduate of the Spence School in Manhattan, New York; Wesleyan University in Connecticut; University of San Francisco School of Law; Founder and President of the Mental Health Law Society 2004/2005; Recipient of the Public Interest Law Fellowship 2004; and, an attorney for the Santa Barbara County Public Defender's Office since 2009; and

WHEREAS, Lea has distinguished herself as a vigorous and tireless advocate for clients represented by the Public Defender's Office, and because of her work ethic and skills, has been entrusted with the task of representing clients charged with the most serious of offenses that come before our Superior Court, which has included murder charges for juvenile and adult clients; and

WHEREAS, Lea has not only excelled in her dedicated representation of clients, but has also demonstrated an aptitude for sharing those skills with other lawyers. Her example of an ethical representation and professional approach to the work of the Public Defender's Office encourages those around her to achieve their highest level of competence; and

WHEREAS, Lea assumes tremendous responsibilities and is extremely dedicated to her clients, she also manages to balance her work life with the raising of her bright and energetic daughter as well her teen twin nieces whom she has raised for a number of years. She recently became a proud Central Coast home owner.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Board of Supervisors commend and recognize Lea Villegas for her exceptional and continuous contributions to the work of Santa Barbara County by naming her employee of the month for January, 2019.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 15th day of January, 2019 by the unanimous vote of the members.

of the Board

Supervisor - 2nd District

Supervisor - 3rd District

Supervisor - 4th District

Supervisor - 5th District