

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 289285

ADOPTED ON OCT 21 1997

WHEREAS, Derek Diaz is a 10-year veteran of the San Diego Police Department and has been an instructor at the San Diego Police Academy since July 1988, teaching arrest, control, and defensive tactics, was a SWAT team member from November 1989 to May 1996 and on a sniper team from April 1994 to May 1996, and an SDPD Field Training Officer from 1990 to 1996; and

WHEREAS, Derek Diaz was a member of the Border Crime Intervention Unit from July 1994 to June 1995, and was a member of the City's STAR program from 1995 to 1996, tutoring children at libraries in Otay and San Ysidro; and was a coach with the Vista Youth Soccer Club, as well as with the San Ysidro Little League in 1996, and has been a participant in the Family Youth Literacy Program since January of 1996; and

WHEREAS, Derek Diaz was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in May 1996, and currently serves the City Heights West command in the department's Mid-City Division; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Derek Diaz was awarded the San Diego Police Department's Medal of Valor for his courageous acts of bravery carried out on May 24, 1996, in which he and fellow Officer Byron Joseph, while in the course of responding to a call of a gunshot victim, apprehended the suspect; and

WHEREAS, during the course of the arrest, the suspect shot Sergeant Diaz in the neck, and the suspect fired another round, striking Officer Joseph in the arm; and

WHEREAS, to save the life of his partner and his own, Sergeant Diaz drew his service weapon fatally wounding the suspect; and

WHEREAS, because of this act of heroism and his long history of service to the public and the San Diego Police Department, Sergeant Derek Diaz was recently selected as one of 10 police officers chosen in a nationwide competition to receive the National Association of Police Organizations' "Top Cops" Award for 1997; and

WHEREAS, on October 9, 1997, Sergeant Derek Diaz will be presented with this prestigious award in an official Whitehouse ceremony with President Bill Clinton in Washington, D.C.; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of The City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the citizens of San Diego, does hereby recognize Sergeant Derek Diaz for his years of dedication, hard work and outstanding service to the San Diego Police Department and the communities of San Diego, culminating in his receipt of the 1997 Top Cops Award.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that October 9, 1997, be and is hereby proclaimed to be **"SERGEANT DEREK DIAZ DAY"** in The City of San Diego.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By Stuart H. Swett  
Stuart H. Swett  
Deputy City Attorney

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