

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 291744

ADOPTED ON JUN 08 1999

WHEREAS, Mr. Hartwell W. Ragsdale was born in Okmulgee, Oklahoma to the late Hartwell W., Sr. and Onlia Violet Ragsdale, and grew up in Ardmore, Oklahoma, where his father operated Ragsdale Funeral Home; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ragsdale attended and graduated from Douglas High School in Ardmore, Oklahoma and Langston University, where he was quarterback on the football team and played basketball; and

WHEREAS, he graduated from San Francisco College of Mortuary Science in 1947 and, in January 1948, with his brother, Dr. Lincoln J. Ragsdale, he opened Ragsdale Mortuary in Phoenix, Arizona; and

WHEREAS, in 1955, he and his wife, Hazel W. Ragsdale, moved to San Diego and purchased the Anderson Mortuary in San Diego and established Anderson-Ragsdale Mortuary; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ragsdale served two terms as President of the San Diego Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (N.A.A.C.P.) during the 1960s Civil Rights Movement, worked closely with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., participated in the March from Selma to Montgomery, and is a Lifetime Member of the N.A.A.C.P. ; and

WHEREAS, he is the third generation of Ragsdales in the mortuary profession, one of the longest black operated businesses in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ragsdale is a Licensed Embalmer in Oklahoma, Arizona, and California, a Licensed Funeral Director in California, a Member of the National Funeral Directors Association, a Member of the National Funeral Directors & Morticians Association, a Member of the California Funeral Directors Association, and a Member of the San Diego County Funeral Directors Association; and

WHEREAS, he has served as a Member of the Super Bowl Committee in 1988 and 1998, has been a Member of the Holiday Bowl Committee every year since its inception, a 33rd Degree Mason, and a Founding Member of the Catfish Club; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of The City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby commend Mr. Hartwell W. Ragsdale for his years of commitment and service to The City of San Diego.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that June 8, 1999 be and is hereby proclaimed to be **"MR. HARTWELL W. RAGSDALE 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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