(R-2003-321)

## RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 297063

WHEREAS, the Justice System of the United States was established to preserve our American liberties, such as freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of the press, freedom of petition and due process of law, and the right to a trial by a jury of our peers; and

WHEREAS, justice for a citizen whose rights have been violated depends on the ability of the court to serve the victim in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, the ability of the court system to administer justice is severely hampered by meritless and frivolous lawsuits; and

WHEREAS, abuse of the legal system places a drain on our economy as well as our community by raising taxes, eliminating jobs, and imposing exorbitant costs on our local businesses; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that every elected representative seeks sensible reforms which will discourage the filing of frivolous lawsuits, reduce litigation costs, and protect victims from outrageous contingency fees; and

WHEREAS, the jury process works to safeguard the justice system by holding the government to the principles of its constitution; and

WHEREAS, the dedicated work of the Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse [CALA] plays an integral role in restoring fairness and balance to the civil justice system by encouraging citizens to serve on a jury when called; and

WHEREAS, CALA's mission is to educate the public about the human and financial

costs of lawsuit abuse and therefore create a climate for change, 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, hereby proclaims September 30 through October 5, 2002 as "Lawsuit Abuse Awareness Week" in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By

Stuart H. Swett

Senior Deputy City Attorney

SHS:smf 08/27/02

Or.Dept:Council-Maienschein

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