

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 298658

ADOPTED ON DEC 01 2003

WHEREAS, since the first Arab immigrants came to these shores more than a century ago, men and women of Arab descent have shared with us their pride in their ethnic heritage and the rich history and traditions of Arab culture, and with their great faith in the principles upon which this country was founded, Arab-Americans have added to the strength and diversity of American society; and

WHEREAS, for decades Arab-Americans have made valuable contributions to virtually every aspect of American life: in science, medicine, education and business, and the works of many talented Arab-American artists and writers grace our museums and libraries throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Arab-Americans occupy positions of leadership and responsibility in the San Diego City government, and throughout our system of government, setting a fine example of public service at the local, state, and national level, and have also enriched our nation with the quiet power of strong families and contributing communities, many having come to the United States in search of the blessings of peace and freedom; and

WHEREAS, industrious and determined, Arab-Americans have helped give us a more profound understanding of the rights and responsibilities we have as citizens of a free and prosperous nation, yet they have not forgotten their ancestral homelands, and have joined all Americans in the desire to bring peace and security to that troubled region; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego is proud to recognize the Association of Arab-American employees (SDAAAE), members of which represent every Arab country and religion;
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, hereby proclaims December 1, 2003, to be "ARAB-AMERICAN DAY" in San Diego, in recognition of the contributions of Arab-Americans, and encourages all residents to share and enjoy the festivities and cultural significance of this day.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By *Catherine Bradley*
Catherine M. Bradley
Deputy City Attorney

CMB:jab
11/20/2003
Or.Dept: Clerk
R-2004-600