

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 298745

ADOPTED ON DEC 01 2003

WHEREAS, this proclamation is presented to commend Susan P. Finlay for her achievements in managing the flow of domestic violence cases through the Superior Court, County of San Diego, court; and

WHEREAS, as the senior judge of the Domestic Violence Court, Judge Finlay has made a major contribution to the efficiency and effectiveness of the Court's management of the domestic violence caseload by developing and implementing numerous improvements; and

WHEREAS, a Probation Officer Calendar is now utilized in which a specially trained and qualified Probation Officer, rather than a judicial officer, monitors the progress of each probationer by conducting recurring, face-to-face, in-court reviews; and

WHEREAS, a Policy and Procedure Manual that presents standards which reflect a consensus reached among the agencies involved in the processing of domestic violence cases is now utilized to achieve reliability, predictability, equal treatment, and fairness under the law in the processing of domestic violence cases; and

WHEREAS, regular meetings are now conducted where prosecutors, defense attorneys, contractors who provide services in support of rehabilitation programs, judicial officers, court staff, and probation officers can cooperate in identifying and resolving conflicts in the processing of domestic violence cases; and


WHEREAS, the number of new domestic violence cases being filed has increased by 20% since 2002; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the increased caseload, the improved caseload management process affords the judicial officers more opportunity to address with the attorneys the merits of each pending case. As a result, with the active participation of the attorneys, more cases are being resolved earlier in the process, 45% fewer cases require a trial, and there has been a 17% increase in the number of cases that, on the day set for trial, are ready for trial; and

WHEREAS, the positive results achieved in the processing of domestic violence cases through the court has reduced public costs and minimized inconvenience to the parties, the witnesses, and the public; 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 recognize Judge Susan B. Finlay for her accomplishments and distinguished service to our community and hereby proclaims December 1, 2003, to be 'JUDGE SUSAN B. FINLAY DAY' in the City of San Diego..

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By 
Richard A. Duvernay
Deputy City Attorney

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Or.Dept:Atty.
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