## RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 298843 ADOPTED ON FEB 0 9 2004

WHEREAS, Medal of Honor Recipients are ordinary people who in one moment of terror found within themselves the character and courage to do the unthinkable; and

WHEREAS, the first award of the Medal of Honor was made March 25, 1863, to Private Jacob Parrott, and five others. Since then there have been 3,459 Medal of Honor Recipients; and

WHEREAS, today, there are 137 living Recipients of the Medal of Honor and 53% of the living Recipients earned their Medals more than 50 years ago while serving in WWII or Korea; and

WHEREAS, San Diego's own John W. Finn is the oldest Recipient at the age of 94; and WHEREAS, the Medal of Honor was designed in the early days of the Civil War to represent the valiant efforts of the Union Army, Navy, and Marines; and

WHEREAS, over the years as the Medal has become a historic symbol of the bravest of the brave, in respect to all who have earned it; and

WHEREAS, these men attained their title for caring enough about their Nation and their comrades in arms, to risk and often sacrifice their life, so that others might live; 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 Sando M. Vargas Jr., Colonel, United States Marine Corps, who received his Medal of Honor for heroic action at Dai Do, Republic of Vietnam, during the period of April 30, 1968 to May 2, 1968.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that February 9, 2004, be and is hereby proclaimed to be "MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS DAY" in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

Lisa Ce Hoster

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Lisa A. Foster

Deputy City Attorney

LAF:jab 01/21/2004

Or.Dept: Council-Frye

R-2004-769