

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 299513

ADOPTED ON AUG 02 2004

WHEREAS, LIONEL VAN DEERLIN was born on July 25, 1914, in Los Angeles, California, and later moved to Oceanside in San Diego County in 1927; and

WHEREAS, during the past 65 years of his adult life, LIONEL VAN DEERLIN sandwiched 18 years as a United States Congressman (D-San Diego) into the continuing life of a news reporter, editor, and commentator; and

WHEREAS, as a student at Oceanside High School, LIONEL VAN DEERLIN got his start in journalism covering the Oceanside Pirates football and baseball teams, and at age 14 his stories appeared on the front page of the Oceanside Blade-Tribune; and

WHEREAS, as an undergraduate at the University of Southern California, LIONEL VAN DEERLIN was editor of the campus newspaper, The Daily Trojan; from 1936-37, worked as a journalist on daily newspapers in San Diego, Minneapolis, and Baltimore; was city editor of the old San Diego Journal; and later served as news director of XETV Channel 6 and KFSD-TV (now KGTV) Channel 10; and

WHEREAS, in four years of World War II service, LIONEL VAN DEERLIN was in the field artillery (78th Infantry Division) and later a staff member of the Army newspaper, Stars and Stripes (Mediterranean); and

WHEREAS, as a Democrat, LIONEL VAN DEERLIN won election to nine terms in the United States Congress from 1962-1980, where he chaired the House Subcommittee on Communications, which during the time under his leadership dealt with technical changes in the

telephone industry and broadcasting, and ultimately made recommendations which led to the breakup of the AT&T monopoly; and

WHEREAS, at the age of 90, LIONEL VAN DEERLIN continues to write a weekly column for The San Diego Union-Tribune, which is syndicated by Copley News Service; and


WHEREAS, LIONEL VAN DEERLIN has an endowed chair in communications named in his behalf at San Diego State University; and

WHEREAS, LIONEL VAN DEERLIN lives in San Diego with his wife of 63 years, Mary Jo, with whom he shares the love and affection of five grown children and four grandchildren; 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, does hereby commend LIONEL VAN DEERLIN for his decades of community service to the San Diego region as an elected official and journalist, and congratulates him on his recently celebrated 90th birthday.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that August 2, 2004, be and is hereby proclaimed to be, **“LIONEL VAN DEERLIN DAY”** in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED:, CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By 
Lisa A. Foster
Deputy City Attorney

LAF:jab
07/01/2004
Or.Dept: Council-Atkins
R-2005-33