

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 304060

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE SEP 11 2008

WHEREAS, shortly after graduating from New Mexico's Pojoaque High School in 1987, Ben Gomez joined the United States Navy, where he served during Operation Desert Storm and was part of the United Nations' humanitarian efforts during the Bosnian conflict; and

WHEREAS, after a ten-year naval career, Ben Gomez left due to the looming "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law that could have directly affected his career; his last command was in San Diego, where he met his life-partner Jeffrey Redondo; and

WHEREAS, Ben Gomez received his California Paralegal Certification at the University of San Diego and continued his career with the United States Attorney's Office, two private law firms and is currently with RSF Execare, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Ben Gomez has been involved with several community organizations, including LGBT Voices '96, AIDS Project San Diego and Special Delivery; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, Ben Gomez began to volunteer with the San Diego LGBT Pride organization; shortly thereafter, Ben became the Safety Coordinator until 2005, when he became the Rally Coordinator; and

WHEREAS, during the years of 2004 and 2005, Ben Gomez served as the Executive Director of San Diego Latin Pride; and

WHEREAS, Ben Gomez's current endeavor is to gather congressional support to repeal the federal law known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," and has secured three members of the United States Congress to co-sponsor the repeal of the Military Readiness Enhancement Act; and

WHEREAS, presently, Ben Gomez is the San Diego chapter president of the American Veterans for Equal Rights, where he also served as the secretary for two terms, and a member of Momentum San Diego, an umbrella organization in support of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" repeal; and

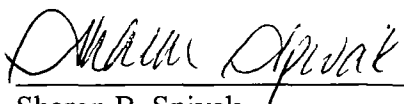
WHEREAS, Ben Gomez is also the Logistics Director of the Stonewall Citizens' Patrol, where he coordinates recruitment, interviews, training, scheduling of patrol volunteers and monthly meetings, and

WHEREAS, Ben Gomez is a board member of the San Diego County LGBT Community Center and a two-time recipient of the Nicky Award for Outstanding Community Volunteer;
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 commend and thank Ben Gomez for the contribution he has made to the City of San Diego's LGBT community and wishes him a very happy 40th birthday.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that August 12, 2008, be and is hereby proclaimed to be, "BEN GOMEZ DAY" in the City of San Diego.


APPROVED: MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE, City Attorney

By 
Sharon B. Spivak
Deputy City Attorney

SBS:als
07/14/08
Or.Dept:Council-Atkins
R-2009-61

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was passed by the Council of the City of San Diego, at this meeting of SEP - 2 2008.

ELIZABETH S. MALAND
City Clerk

By 
Deputy City Clerk

Approved: 9-11-08
(date)


JERRY SANDERS, Mayor

Vetoed: _____
(date)

JERRY SANDERS, Mayor