

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 305297

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE OCT 14 2009

WHEREAS, the justice system of the United States was established to preserve American liberties, such as freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of the press, freedom of petition, due process of law, and the right to a trial by a jury of one's peers; and

WHEREAS, justice for a citizen whose rights have been violated depends on the ability of the court to serve the victim in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, the ability of the court system to administer justice is severely hampered by meritless and frivolous lawsuits; and

WHEREAS, abuse of the legal system places a drain on the economy as well as the community by raising taxes, eliminating jobs, and imposing exorbitant costs on local businesses; and

WHEREAS, in Fiscal Year 2008, San Diego taxpayers paid an estimated \$17 million for outside counsel, verdicts, and settlements for lawsuits against the City of San Diego; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that every elected representative seek sensible reforms that will discourage the filing of frivolous lawsuits, reduce litigation costs, and protect victims from outrageous contingency fees; and

WHEREAS, the jury process works to safeguard the justice system by holding the government to the principles of its constitution; and

WHEREAS, the dedicated work of the Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse [CALA] plays an integral role in restoring fairness and balance to the civil justice system by encouraging citizens to serve on a jury when called; and

WHEREAS, CALA's mission is to educate the public about the human and financial costs of lawsuit abuse and therefore create a climate for change; 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 proclaim the week of October 5, 2009, as "LAWSUIT ABUSE AWARENESS WEEK" in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: JAN I. GOLDSMITH, City Attorney

By Sharon B. Spivak  
Sharon B. Spivak  
Deputy City Attorney

SBS:lkj  
09/11/09  
Or.Dept:Council-DeMaio  
R-2010-158

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was passed by the Council of the City of San Diego, at this meeting of OCT 6 2009.

ELIZABETH S. MALAND  
City Clerk

By [Signature]  
Deputy City Clerk

Approved: 10.14.09  
(date)

[Signature]  
JERRY SANDERS, Mayor

Vetoed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

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JERRY SANDERS, Mayor