

## County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: April 22, 2025

Item Number:	

Resolution Number:

□ 4/5 Vote Required

## Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California, Honoring And Celebrating Raymond Hill For His Exceptional Service To The Sonoma County Fire District And The Communities It Serves

Whereas, Raymond Hill is the consummate public servant. He is platform agnostic — having provided service in law enforcement, education, fire and emergency medical response; and

Whereas, Raymond Hill started his career in law enforcement and served from 1967 to 1981; he became a Professor at Santa Rosa Junior College in 1981 and continues to teach and inspire his students to this day; and

Whereas, Raymond Hill joined the Fire/EMS service by becoming a volunteer with the Bodega Bay Fire Protection District, in 2004; Ray was a "Gold Standard Volunteer" respected by all; he set the bar high; generations of volunteers profited from his knowledge, wisdom, and inspiration. Ray anchored the District's Emergency Vehicle Operations training which involved driving throughout the District and performing maneuvers under his sharp eye and tutelage. "Driving Miss Daisy" as his course was labeled, was a profound experience, not only for the substance and skills learned, but also for the time spent, one-on-one, with Ray in the vehicle; and

**Whereas,** Raymond Hill was a leader in responding to calls; at a time when the District was short staffed, Ray could be counted to respond no matter the time or weather; and

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**Whereas,** Raymond Hill was a skilled grant writer — bringing in more than \$1.5 million to help the District purchase essential lifesaving and staff safety equipment; and

**Whereas,** Raymond Hill was awarded the "Firefighter of the Year" award, by vote of his peers, three times; and

**Whereas,** Raymond Hill was given BBFPD's highest award, the Bodega Bay FPD Lifetime Achievement Award; and

Whereas, Raymond Hill was instrumental in creating the Bodega Bay Firefighters Association Scholarship Program — a program that awards scholarships to graduating seniors at Tomales High School; the foundation continues to serve the Bodega Bay community as the Bodega Bay Fire Foundation for which Ray is the President; and

**Whereas,** Raymond Hill transitioned to the Sonoma County Fire District upon the consolidation of the two Districts. Raymond served as a grant writer securing more than \$200,000 in funds for the new District; and

Whereas, Raymond Hill's passion, commitment and leadership have redounded to the benefit of all he has served.

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved** that the Sonoma County Fire District expresses its deepest appreciation to Raymond Hill for his exceptional service, dedication and contributions to the District and the communities it serves, including his hometown, Bodega Bay;

**Be It Further Resolved** that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the entire County, expresses its gratitude for Raymond Hill's 21 years of volunteer service. Ray's contributions have enriched the lives of many while setting an inspiring example for all

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Supervisors:

Hermosillo:Rabbitt:Coursey:Gore:Hopkins:Ayes:Noes:Absent:Abstain:

So Ordered.