



# County of Sonoma

## State of California

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Date: March 25, 2024

Item Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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4/5 Vote Required

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**Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California,  
Honoring And Celebrating The Career Of Sonoma County Fire Chief Mark Heine For His Forty-  
One Years Of Fire Service Leadership And Innovation**

**Whereas**, Chief Mark Heine began his fire service career forty-one years ago in Marin County as a volunteer firefighter and Emergency Medical Technician; and

**Whereas**, his commitment to public service led to paramedic training at Stanford Hospital and work with a private ambulance company in Contra Costa County; and

**Whereas**, in 1986 Chief Heine was among the first paramedic firefighters hired by the Novato Fire Protection District; and

**Whereas**, he served thirty-two years with Novato Fire Protection District at all levels of command, including five years as District Fire Chief and selection to attend the National Fire Academy; and

**Whereas**, in 2018, Chief Heine was hired as the Fire Chief for both the Rincon Valley Fire Protection District and the Windsor Fire Protection District, with the objective of consolidating fire services in Sonoma County; and

**Whereas**, his vision and inspiration resulted in the consolidation of seven fire agencies to create the Sonoma County Fire District, serving communities in all five Supervisorial Districts and paving the way for other fire agency consolidations in Sonoma County; and

**Whereas,** Chief Heine's operational expertise was pivotal in saving lives and property while leading the response to the 2019 Kincade Fire, as well as the 2020 Glass and Walbridge Fires within the Sonoma County Fire District; and

**Whereas,** his innovative leadership successfully implemented public-private partnerships blending fire suppression and emergency medical services to establish an aerial firefighting division with REACH helicopters in 2022, and transition to fire agency ambulance services in central Sonoma County in 2023; and

**Whereas,** after several years of collaboration with fire agencies and County leadership, Chief Heine's unwavering commitment and advocacy were essential in negotiating the successful 2024 Measure H fire sales tax funding to enhance resources for vegetation management, fire service staffing and facility upgrades in every area of Sonoma County; and

**Whereas,** in addition to serving as Sonoma County Operational Area Coordinator and President of the Sonoma County Fire Chiefs Association, he served for eleven years on the Executive Committee of California Fire Chiefs Association representing 800 fire agencies statewide, including being elected by his peers as 2023-2024 Cal Chiefs President; and

**Whereas,** by his example, enthusiasm, and grace under pressure that consistently demonstrates the Sonoma County Fire District core principles of Honesty, Respect, and Integrity, Chief Heine has been a valued partner and trusted advisor to the Board of Supervisors, setting a high benchmark for future fire service leaders.

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved** that we, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma, do hereby honor Fire Chief Mark Heine for his exceptional leadership, dedication, and contributions to fire service innovations that will continue to have a lasting impact throughout the County of Sonoma and State of California.

**Be It Further Resolved** that the Board of Supervisors expresses its deepest gratitude and admiration for his outstanding career of service and wishes Chief Heine a restful and productive retirement.

**Supervisors:**

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

**So Ordered.**