

1 **[Commending Central American Resource Center, Supervisor David Campos, and Aura**
2 **Beteta on Central American People's Day 2009]**

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5 **Resolution recognizing October 18, 2009 as Central American People's Day, and to**
6 **acknowledge Central American Resource Center's (CARECEN) contributions in**
7 **organizing the second annual Central American community "Festival de los Volcanes,"**
8 **and commending Supervisor David Campos and Aura Beteta for their exemplary**
9 **leadership on behalf of the City's immigrant community.**

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11 WHEREAS, The Central American Resource Center (CARECEN) is an immigrant
12 family wellness and empowerment agency committed to providing needed services to effect
13 long-term change; and

14 WHEREAS, For the last twenty-three years CARECEN has fulfilled its mission to
15 enhance the quality of life for Latino and immigrant residents through wellness, family
16 empowerment, and legal and advocacy programs that emphasize family support; and,

17 WHEREAS, CARECEN will be honoring Central Americans presence in San Francisco
18 by organizing the second annual "Festival of the Volcanes: Celebrating Central America";
19 and,

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21 WHEREAS, CARECEN's second annual "Festival de los Volcanes" is a cultural
22 celebration that aims to educate, inspire, unify, and create trans-generational bonds within the
23 Central American community in the Bay Area; and,

24 WHEREAS, Central Americans have a tradition of migrating to the United States that
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1 dates back more than a century due to economic and political instability in their countries of
2 origin; and,

3 WHEREAS, Significant numbers of early immigrants arrived in the United States
4 during the 1930's-1940's and resettled in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Houston and New
5 Orleans while escaping their failing economies, political persecution and the lack of personal
6 freedoms; and,

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8 WHEREAS, Central American immigrants, as active members of social migration
9 networks, helped to establish the social and economic foundations in the Latin American
10 immigrant communities in San Francisco; and,

11 WHEREAS, These early Central American immigrants that settled in San Francisco
12 provided much benefit to the future generations of Central Americans that would later arrive in
13 the United States; and,

14 WHEREAS, Central Americans relied mostly on family networks rather than ethnic,
15 neighborhood, village, or national migration networks during the early migrations to the United
16 States. Furthermore, many of these immigrants were members of the urban middle classes
17 and had relatively high levels of education. Many were intellectuals, teachers, labor
18 organizers, political dissidents, or exiled military officers that were not in agreement with their
19 Central American governments; and,

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21 WHEREAS, The influx of Central American immigrants to this country increased at an
22 extremely rapid pace in the late 1970's and early 1980's. Presently, Central America ranks as
23 the Latin American region contributing second largest number of legal and undocumented
24 immigrants to the United States; and,
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1 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Bay Area has historically been a haven for Central
2 American immigrants as the local communities have provided the social and cultural support
3 systems that have helped their successful adaptation and incorporation into their local
4 communities; and,

5 WHEREAS, CARECEN's "Festival of the Volcanes" will celebrate the customs,
6 cultures and other contributions of Central Americans in San Francisco's Bay Area and
7 provide an opportunity for showcasing the region's people, environment, and history; and,

8 WHEREAS, CARECEN's "Festival of the Volcanes" will be a free family and
9 community event aimed at the diverse communities of indigenous, *afro-centroamericano*, and
10 other marginalized groups but inclusive of cultural traditions and voices of unity among all
11 San Francisco residents; and,

12 WHEREAS, CARECEN's "Festival of the Volcanes" will encourage and promote
13 collaboration with a broad spectrum of organizations, businesses, and groups serving or
14 working with the Central American community; and,

15 WHEREAS, The "Festival of the Volcanes" will highlight issues affecting the Central
16 American community in San Francisco including immigration, education, healthcare, and
17 affordable housing. The Festival is also designed to promote social justice in fair trade
18 practices, companies, and products which provide living wages to Central Americans; and,

19 WHEREAS, The "Festival of the Volcanes" is an expression of a broad collaboration of
20 leaders and community organizations, housed and sponsored under CARECEN, and steered
21 by a committee of individuals representing all Central American countries; and,

22 WHEREAS, The "Festival of the Volcanes" will be paying tribute to
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1 Supervisor David Campos, the first Guatemalan immigrant to be elected to the Board of
2 Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco; and,

3 WHEREAS, Supervisor Campos was originally from Puerto Barrios, Guatemala, and
4 immigrated to the US in the mid 1980s. For 20 years Supervisor Campos has shown
5 commitment to the Latino community by fighting for the civil rights for all people. Supervisor
6 Campos grew up in South Central Los Angeles and graduated from Harvard University with a
7 law degree; and,

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9 WHEREAS, The "Festival de los Volcanes" will also be paying tribute to
10 Aura Beteta, a Nicaraguan-born social justice and cultural advancement leader. In her more
11 than 50 years of work, she has served the Nicaraguan government in a number of roles
12 including, cultural attaché for the Nicaraguan consulate in Canada and as the Nicaraguan
13 consul general in San Francisco. In the last ten years she has worked tirelessly to gather
14 material aid and work in solidarity with people in Nicaragua and the rest of Central America;
15 and,

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17 WHEREAS, Both David Campos and Aura Beteta have been exemplary leaders for
18 the Central American community and also San Francisco residents, therefore be it

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20 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco recognize and honor the
21 contributions of Central Americans to the city and that the Board of Supervisors commend
22 CARECEN for organizing the Festival de los Volcanes; and, be it

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24 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors highlight the presence of the
25 national, cultural and ethnic diversity of our San Francisco residents of Central American

1 origin and continue to be committed to the development of this important segment of our city's
2 population; and, be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors honor the contributions of
4 Supervisor David Campos, a Guatemalan-American who has contributed greatly to the City's
5 immigrant community; and, be it

6 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors honor the contributions of Aura
7 Beteta, Nicaraguan-American leader who has fought tirelessly for the rights and well-being of
8 the Nicaraguan community here in San Francisco; and, be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors recognize October 18th, 2009
10 as Central American People's Day.
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City and County of San Francisco

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails Resolution

File Number: 091001

Date Passed:

Resolution declaring October 18th as 2009 Central American People's Day, and to acknowledge Central American Resource Center's (CARECEN) contributions in organizing the second annual Central American Community "Festival de los Volcanes," and commending Supervisor David Campos, and Aura Beteta for their exemplary leadership on behalf of the City's immigrant community.

October 6, 2009 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Alioto-Pier, Avalos, Chiu, Chu, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Mar, Maxwell,
Mirkarimi

Excused: 1 - Campos

File No. 091001

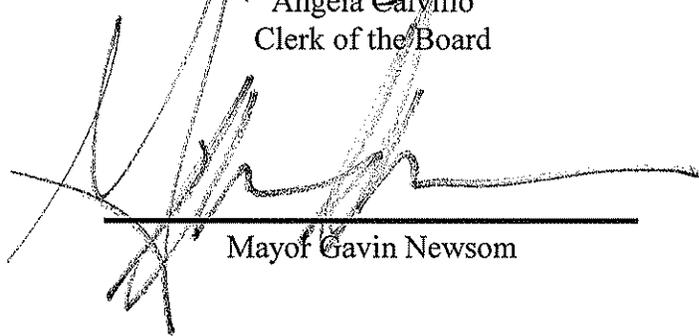
I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on October 6, 2009 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.



Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

10/8/09

Date Approved



Mayor Gavin Newsom