

**WHEREAS**, the San José Fire Department was established on January 27, 1854, by City Ordinance 239 and thus celebrates its 170<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, initially a volunteer company, the San José Fire Department began hiring professional officers in 1876 and currently has more than 600 firefighters who respond to fires and other emergencies in the 12<sup>th</sup> largest city in the United States which contains more than 1,000,000 residents and is spread out across 200 square miles; and

**WHEREAS**, the San José Fire Department is one of the busiest fire departments in the nation, responding to more than 109,000 service calls every year; and

**WHEREAS**, the San José Fire Department provides fire protection and suppression and emergency response services to an area that includes residential, commercial, industrial, and wildland-urban interface zones, including high-traffic areas such as San José Mineta International Airport, the SAP Center, PayPal Park, San José State University, three super-regional malls, seven major hospitals, and 108 high-rise structures; and

**WHEREAS**, the San José Fire Department has saved lives and protected city residents and their property during every major conflagration and disaster in its history, including the 1994 Loma Prieta Earthquake, 1995 Guadalupe River Flood, 2002 Santana Row Fire, 2017 Coyote Creek Flood, and the 2020 CZU and SCU wildfires.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara does hereby recognize and commend the

## San José Fire Department

for 170 years of being dedicated first responders saving lives, protecting residents and property, and responding to every type of emergency, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, throughout San José and surrounding areas.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED**, by the Board of Supervisors, County of Santa Clara, State of California, on this Twenty-Seventh Day of February, Two Thousand and Twenty-four by unanimous vote.

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Susan Ellenberg  
President, Board of Supervisors

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Sylvia Arenas  
Supervisor, District One

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Cindy Chavez  
Supervisor, District Two

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Otto Lee  
Supervisor, District Three

Approved as to form and legality:

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S. Joseph Simitian  
Supervisor, District Five

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tony LoPresti  
County Counsel

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Attest: Curtis Boone  
Acting Clerk, Board of  
Supervisors