

WHEREAS, the San José Fire Department was established on January 27, 1854, by City Ordinance 239 and thus celebrates its 170th 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 12th 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.

Susan Ellenberg
President, Board of Supervisors

Sylvia Arenas
Supervisor, District One

Cindy Chavez
Supervisor, District Two

Otto Lee
Supervisor, District Three

Approved as to form and legality:

S. Joseph Simitian
Supervisor, District Five



Tony LoPresti
County Counsel

Attest: Curtis Boone
Acting Clerk, Board of
Supervisors