

1 [Commending Deputy City Attorney Randy Edward Riddle.]

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3 **Resolution commending Randy Edward Riddle for 15 years of exemplary public service**
4 **to San Francisco as a Deputy City Attorney in the Government Law Division of the City**
5 **Attorney's Office, and wishing him well in his future endeavors as General Counsel for**
6 **the California Secretary of State.**

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8 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco wishes to
9 honor Randy Edward Riddle, who has given 15 years of dedicated and exemplary public service
10 to San Francisco as a Deputy City Attorney, first under City Attorney Louise H. Renne and then
11 under City Attorney Dennis J. Herrera, and who is now leaving City employment to serve as
12 General Counsel in Secretary of State Kevin Shelley's Office; and,

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Riddle has been one of the City's best and most effective lawyers,
14 successfully representing the City in many significant lawsuits and matters of great public
15 interest, and has devoted his extraordinary intellect and legal talents to advising and
16 representing the offices and officials of the City and County of San Francisco and the San
17 Francisco Unified School District, including the Board of Supervisors, the Mayor, the Board of
18 Education, the Elections Department, the Purchasing Department, the Human Rights
19 Commission, the Ethics Commission and many other boards, commissions, agencies and
20 officials; and,

21 WHEREAS, The City, its voters and residents have benefited tremendously from Mr.
22 Riddle's exemplary leadership and legal talents; and,

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Riddle joined the City Attorney's Office in 1985 after graduating from
24 Golden Gate University School of Law and having done his undergraduate work at the
25 University of Notre Dame; and,

1 WHEREAS, As a Deputy City Attorney on the Government Team, Mr. Riddle drafted
2 landmark legislation, such as the Charter amendment creating the Ethics Commission,
3 litigated cases of major significance to the City, such as cases involving anti-discrimination
4 ordinances and elections law, and helped handle complex transactional matters such as the
5 contract for towing abandoned vehicles from the City's neighborhoods; and,

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Riddle took a leave of absence from the City Attorney's Office from
7 1995 to 1998 to serve as General Counsel to the Senate of the Republic of Palau; and,

8 WHEREAS, For the past four years Mr. Riddle has served as head of the Government
9 Litigation Division and has successfully defended the City and County of San Francisco
10 against a number of significant lawsuits challenging City ordinances, including voter-approved
11 initiative measures, and other actions taken by the Board of Supervisors and City officers;
12 and,

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Riddle has particularly distinguished himself in defending the City's
14 MBE/WBE/LBE Ordinance against various lawsuits, including from attacks by the
15 conservative Pacific Legal Foundation, and thereby promoting contracting opportunities for
16 members of our community who have been historically excluded from work on City contracts;
17 and,

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Riddle has extensive experience in elections law and is widely
19 regarded as a leading expert in that legal field; and,

20 WHEREAS, Throughout his career in City government, Mr. Riddle excelled as a
21 problem solver and was instrumental in crafting creative, practical and sound solutions to
22 complex legal issues; and,

23 WHEREAS, As the supervisor of the City Attorney Office's Government Litigation
24 Division and as a key member of the Office's Appellate Review Panel, Mr. Riddle has
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1 demonstrated an extraordinary ability to motivate his colleagues to do their finest legal work
2 and realize their maximum potential; and,

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Riddle's adherence to the highest standards of ethical conduct have
4 ennobled public service and his strong work ethic has set an example for others to follow;
5 and,

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Riddle's colleagues in City government have valued him for his skill and
7 proficiency in the work he produced, and for his astute counsel, judgment, quick wit and
8 wonderfully dry sense of humor, leadership, commitment, calming influence, decency, integrity
9 and – most of all – his friendship, and they will dearly miss him; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
11 hereby commends Randy Riddle for his 15 years of exemplary public service for the City and
12 County, its voters and residents; and, be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors wishes him well in his future
14 endeavors as General Counsel for the California Secretary of State; and, be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County looks forward to working with Mr.
16 Riddle in his new role.

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