

1 [Seeking a Permanent Halt to the Blue Angels Air Show Over San Francisco]

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3 **Resolution seeking a permanent halt to the annual Blue Angels air show over the City**
4 **of San Francisco.**

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6 WHEREAS, Pursuant to Environmental Code Section 101 of the City and County of
7 San Francisco, all officers, boards, commissions and departments shall implement the
8 Precautionary Principle in conducting the City and County affairs; and

9 WHEREAS, the Precautionary Principle requires public servants to take anticipatory
10 action to prevent harm and through exploration and careful analysis select courses of action
11 that present the least threat to all; and,

12 WHEREAS, The Blue Angels is an elite Navy exhibition squadron that tours the United
13 States to perform air shows, involving dare devil maneuvers and tight flight; and,

14 WHEREAS, Blue Angels air shows have not occurred without incident or loss of life;
15 and,

16 WHEREAS, Over the past 60 years, the air show has resulted in 26 fatalities, most
17 recently on April 21, 2007 Beaufort County, South Carolina, when Blue Angel pilot Lt. Cmdr.
18 Kevin J. Davis, crashed with his plane into several neighborhood homes, killing himself and
19 injuring eight people on the ground; and,

20 WHEREAS, Each October, the Blue Angels performs an air show over the City of San
21 Francisco as part of the Fleet Week; and,

22 WHEREAS, Based on the recent history and the style of their performance in which
23 the slightest error by a pilot or a mechanical malfunction has been known to have disastrous
24 effects, the Blue Angels air show poses an unwarranted risk to life and property in the
25 densely-populated, urban environment of San Francisco; and,

Chris Daly

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1 WHEREAS, The Blue Angel F/A-18 Hornet jets make a considerable amount of noise
2 pollution with volume rising to levels that exceed legal limits for the civilian community; and,

3 WHEREAS, When the aircraft fly their simulated strafing runs over the concrete and
4 glass canyons of San Francisco's high-rise buildings, the volume is magnified to ear splitting
5 and nerve shattering levels; and,

6 WHEREAS, San Francisco is a Sanctuary City for many immigrants from war torn
7 countries and home to thousands of veterans of war who have experienced air bombardment
8 and are at risk of being traumatized when the Blue Angels perform; and,

9 WHEREAS, The jets also terrorize small children, seniors, pets and local wildlife; and,

10 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco has taken steps to contribute to the
11 effort to stem global climate change and to avert the catastrophic consequences of air
12 pollution, nevertheless, the Blue Angels spew tons of toxic exhaust during their flyovers; and,

13 WHEREAS, This is a time of under-supplies of crude oil and its byproducts, the F/A-18
14 Hornet wastes an inordinate amount of jet fuel; and,

15 WHEREAS, The Federal deficit and national debt have risen to levels never before
16 imagined, and the people of San Francisco have suffered from Federal cuts to vital programs;
17 and,

18 WHEREAS, The City pays for additional support from the police and fire departments
19 while waiving the normal \$25,000 fee to the military; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
21 support the permanent halt to flyovers over populated areas by the Blue Angels; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors call on Senator Barbara Boxer,
23 Senator Dianne Feinstein, Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Congressman Tom Lantos to use all
24 resources at their disposal to bring a permanent halt to unnecessary flyovers by military
25 aircraft.