

1 [Roger Casement Day - October 28, 2025]

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3 **Resolution recognizing October 28, 2025, as Roger Casement Day in the City and**
4 **County of San Francisco.**
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6 WHEREAS, Roger Casement was an Irish patriot, diplomat and pioneering activist for
7 the human rights of indigenous peoples; and

8 WHEREAS, The Casement Report, written by Casement in 1904, detailed the abuses
9 in the Congo Free State against the Congolese population, including the atrocities committed
10 by colonial administrators under the rule of King Leopold II of Belgium, and was instrumental
11 in Leopold relinquishing his private holdings in Africa and ending the exploitation of the Congo
12 for its natural resources; and

13 WHEREAS, Casement was knighted in 1911 for his investigations of human rights
14 abuses in the rubber industry in Peru; and

15 WHEREAS, Casement was an Irish revolutionary and in 1905 joined the Sinn Féin
16 party, which called for an independent Ireland, and organized public and political support on
17 behalf of Ireland's efforts to achieve independence; and

18 WHEREAS, In 1914, Casement traveled to Germany and negotiated the government's
19 public support for Irish independence and, while there, worked to recruit an Irish Brigade that
20 would be trained to fight against Britain in the cause of Irish Independence and secure
21 shipments of arms and ammunition; and

22 WHEREAS, Casement was martyred for his role in the 1916 Easter Uprising, one of
23 the most significant uprisings in Ireland and the first armed conflict of the Irish revolutionary
24 period; and
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1 WHEREAS, Casement was stripped of his knighthood in June of 1916, executed on
2 August 3, and was buried in the prison cemetery; and

3 WHEREAS, in 1965, Casement's remains were repatriated to Ireland and despite the
4 annulment of his title, the 1965 UK Cabinet record of his repatriation refers to him as "Sir
5 Roger Casement"; and

6 WHEREAS, Despite the stripping of his title, attempts to malign him for his
7 homosexuality, and his execution for acts of treason, Roger Casement is remembered fondly
8 for his efforts to expose and end the colonial atrocities in the Congo and the Putomayo region
9 and his pioneering activism; and

10 WHEREAS, The Consulate General of Ireland, Neale Richmond, TD, Ireland's Minister
11 of State for International Trade and Diaspora, and the Rainbow Honor Walk will honor Roger
12 Casement with an unveiling of a bronze plaque to be installed in the Castro District on
13 October 28, 2025; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
15 does hereby designate October 28, 2025, as "Roger Casement Day" in his honor, to
16 commemorate his legacy, his contributions to expose colonial atrocities, and his championing
17 of self-determination and independence for all oppressed peoples.