

1 [Oliver W. Sipple Day - September 22, 2011]

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3 **Resolution declaring September 22, 2011, as Oliver W. Sipple Day in San Francisco to**
4 **honor a gay American hero, who on September 22, 1975, saved the life of President**
5 **Gerald Ford outside of St. Francis Hotel in Union Square in San Francisco.**

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7 WHEREAS, February 2, 2011, marked the 22nd anniversary of the passing of Oliver W.
8 Sipple, a working class, gay, disabled, veteran who became a heroic resident of the City of
9 San Francisco; and

10 WHEREAS, On September 22, 1975, Oliver W. Sipple intervened by lunging towards
11 Sara Jane Moore and diverting the direction of the gun she fired in an attempt to assassinate
12 President Gerald Ford as the President was leaving the St. Francis Hotel in Union Square;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, In the national spotlight after his heroic act, the press exposed Mr. Sipple
15 as a gay man, contrary to his wishes; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Sipple had to face the scorn of his parents who refused to talk to him
17 when they discovered his sexual orientation; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Sipple fought back, by filing an invasion of privacy lawsuit against
19 seven newspapers for violating his request to maintain his private life private; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Sipple was also a decorated US Marine and Vietnam veteran who
21 was forced to end his tour of duty prematurely when he was injured by shrapnel during
22 combat; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors recognizes Oliver W.
24 Sipple as a gay American veteran and hero; and, be it

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1 FURTHER RESOLVED, In recognition of the special contributions of Mr. Sipple to our
2 city and country, the San Francisco Board of Supervisor declares September 22, 2011, Oliver
3 W. Sipple day.

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