

1 [Filicide Awareness Week - April 9 through April 15, 2023]

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3 **Resolution declaring the week of April 9 through April 15, 2023, to be Filicide**
4 **Awareness Week in the City and County of San Francisco and supporting**
5 **“Pierce’s Pledge.”**

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7 WHEREAS, The month of April has been recognized as National Child Abuse
8 Prevention Month since 1983; and

9 WHEREAS, Children are often targets of neglect, mental, physical, and sexual
10 abuse that occurs mainly within their household and, tragically, sometimes leads to
11 filicide; and

12 WHEREAS, Approximately 500 filicide cases occur in the United States annually;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, On average, one child a week is murdered by a parent or stepparent
15 during divorce, separation, child support, visitation, or custody negotiations; and

16 WHEREAS, On January 13, 2021, Pierce Howard Hu was killed by his father
17 while he slept in a murder-suicide; and

18 WHEREAS, Pierce is survived by his uncles Scott and Michael; his grandparents,
19 Howard and Therese, and his mother, Lesley; and

20 WHEREAS, Pierce’s murder has shattered the hearts of his mother, family,
21 friends, and community; and

22 WHEREAS, Community-wide efforts are essential to preventing and
23 safeguarding our children by providing loving and nurturing relationships in which they
24 can thrive; and

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1 WHEREAS, Family law attorneys have the power to contribute their efforts to
2 protect minor children; and

3 WHEREAS, Pierce’s Pledge is a non-profit organization whose mission is to keep
4 children safe during the stressful and emotionally volatile time of custody disputes; and

5 WHEREAS, Pierce’s Pledge is dedicated to supporting the families of filicide
6 victims in the aftermath, honoring the lives of victims, engaging our community in
7 dialogue for exposing abuse, collaborating with other service providers for expanding
8 resources and the availability to said resources; and

9 WHEREAS, Pierce’s Pledge empowers family law attorneys to contribute their
10 efforts to protect and keep minor children safe during custody negotiations; and

11 WHEREAS, Requiring clients to disclose and temporarily remove weapons in a
12 third-party location during the time of representation reduces the potential for violence,
13 domestic abuse, violent threats, uneven power struggles, and murder; now, therefore,
14 be it

15 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby declares April
16 9 through April 15, 2023, to be Filicide Awareness Week to encourage all residents to
17 raise awareness of filicide, become familiar with the warning signs and support the
18 efforts within the community to assist in the prevention of another child’s death due to
19 child abuse at the hand of a parent or caregiver; and, be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby
21 commends and supports the efforts of Pierce’s Pledge; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby
23 urges all family law attorneys to take the pledge in keeping children as safe as possible
24 during family law legal proceedings, to require clients to declare firearms in their
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1 possession and to store firearms out of the home in secure locations with a licensed
2 third-party during representation, and to not represent any client who refuses to do so.

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