

[Honoring Joey Alexander and Urban Alchemy's Impact]

Resolution honoring the life of Joey Alexander and recognizing the vital role of Urban Alchemy and community-based safety in San Francisco's public safety ecosystem.

WHEREAS, Urban Alchemy was founded in San Francisco in 2018 with a mission to transform trauma into healing by employing individuals with lived experience of homelessness, incarceration, and addiction to bring trauma informed care, outreach, and service in some of the City's most challenging neighborhoods and public spaces; and

WHEREAS, Urban Alchemy Practitioners serve vulnerable populations, residents, businesses, and visitors throughout San Francisco and in neighborhoods like the Tenderloin, Mid-Market, SoMa, and Civic Center, where they build relationships, de-escalate conflicts, assist residents, businesses, and visitors, connect people in crisis to services, shelter, and housing, reverse overdoses, and aim to bring peace, safety, and transformation to the neighborhoods and communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, Urban Alchemy's trauma-informed community-based safety model has shown measurable impact: studies from Stanford and City reports indicate that in areas where Urban Alchemy staff are stationed versus where they are not, overall crime has dropped by 52%, drug-related crime by 82%, and emergency calls for service for disorder and public safety have dropped by over 60% on some blocks and corridors; and

WHEREAS, On September 30, 2025, San Francisco was devastated by the tragic death of Mr. Joey Alexander, an Urban Alchemy Practitioner who was violently shot outside the Main Library while doing his job to stop public drug use, a profound loss in the line of duty that underscores both the risks faced by safety ambassadors and the courage with which they serve; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Alexander's passing is a reminder that Urban Alchemy's Practitioners
2 put themselves on the frontlines every day, not with weapons or the authority to arrest, but
3 with compassion, respect, and the power of trauma-informed care and outreach, and that their
4 work saves lives, prevents violence, connects people to services, and uplifts neighborhoods;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Urban Alchemy's work has earned broad recognition and support from
7 residents, businesses, visitors, and community-based organizations throughout San
8 Francisco, who value the safety, stability, and compassion its Practitioners bring to
9 neighborhoods and public spaces; and

10 WHEREAS, Urban Alchemy serves as a vital support to public safety and public health
11 agencies and to first responders, rather than a substitute, enabling police officers and
12 firefighters to focus on higher-priority calls for service, including violent and organized crime;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors recognizes Urban Alchemy as a cornerstone of
15 San Francisco's public safety ecosystem today, complementing law enforcement, public
16 health, and social service efforts by filling gaps that no single agency can address alone, and
17 doing so with dignity and empathy; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby honors the life, service, and
19 sacrifice of Mr. Joey Alexander, extending its deepest condolences to his family, colleagues,
20 and the Urban Alchemy community; and, be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors commends Urban Alchemy for
22 its history, its mission, and its impact in San Francisco's neighborhoods and across the
23 country, acknowledging the unique and irreplaceable role it plays in keeping public spaces
24 safe, welcoming, and compassionate, and recognizing that Urban Alchemy embodies San
25

1 Francisco's progressive values by creating career pathways, reducing recidivism, reducing
2 crime, saving lives, and demonstrating the transformative power of second chances; and, be it
3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City of San Francisco affirms its ongoing commitment
4 to support Urban Alchemy as a vital partner in advancing public safety, health, and community
5 wellbeing across all neighborhoods.