

1 [Commending Chief Juvenile Probation Officer Jesse E. Williams Jr. for his exemplary
2 services and dedication to San Francisco's youth.]

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4 **Resolution commending Chief Juvenile Probation Officer Jesse E. Williams Jr. for his**
5 **exemplary services and dedication to San Francisco.**

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7 WHEREAS, Since taking the helm of the Juvenile Probation Department as Chief
8 Juvenile Probation Officer in 1997, Jesse E. Williams Jr. has accomplished a number of
9 crucial reforms in the juvenile justice system in San Francisco; and,

10 WHEREAS, Under his leadership, programs and services for young women and girls
11 were expanded from having only one program for gender-specific issues to eight, including a
12 girls services coordinator, two female only caseload carrying juvenile probation officers, and
13 specialized training for staff; and,

14 WHEREAS, At the initiative of Chief Williams, the Anne E. Casey Foundation named
15 San Francisco as a replication site for its Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, a project
16 that convened a variety of juvenile justice stakeholders to analyze the system and make
17 reforms designed to reduce the unnecessary use of secure detention; reduce the
18 disproportionate representation of youth of color in detention; enhance community-based
19 alternatives to detention; and improve conditions of confinement for youth who do need to be
20 detained – all while maintaining or enhancing public safety; and,

21 WHEREAS, Under his leadership, the Juvenile Hall average daily population has
22 declined from 122 in 1997, to 115 in 2001, and a year-to-date average daily population of 90
23 for 2003, and this decline is the result not only of the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative,
24 but also of departmental efforts started under Chief Jesse E. Williams, Jr., such as the
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1 Population Management Program, as well as a specialized unit of juvenile probation officers
2 working with youth with mental health issues which has helped reduce the number of youth
3 detained while awaiting out-of-home placement; and,

4 WHEREAS, Under Chief Williams' administration, \$3.2 million in federal TANF funding
5 became available to the department to expand and enhance community-based prevention
6 and intervention programs for youth involved with the juvenile justice system, or youth at risk
7 of such involvement; and,

8 WHEREAS, As a direct result of the expansion, the department has been able to
9 develop a closer relationship with the community through involving members of the
10 community in the department's internal planning efforts through the Community Partnership
11 Initiative, Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council, Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, and
12 Gang Free Communities Initiative; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the City and County San Francisco Board of Supervisors extends its
14 highest commendation in recognition of Chief Jesse E. Williams Jr. for his exemplary services
15 and dedication to San Francisco; and be it,

16 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco Board of
17 Supervisors sincerely thank Chief Williams for commitment to reforming the our city's juvenile
18 justice system and wishes him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

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