

1 [Urging Support for Reconvening Domestic Violence Death Review Team]

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3 **Resolution urging the City and County of San Francisco to support the reconvening of**
4 **a multidisciplinary Domestic Violence Death Review Team to conduct an in-depth**
5 **review of domestic violence-related fatalities; make recommendations to strengthen**
6 **system policies and procedures, if needed; and identify additional prevention**
7 **strategies to prevent future incidents of domestic violence-related injuries and deaths.**

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9 WHEREAS, Violence against women is a serious issue globally, nationally, and locally,
10 with approximately 1 in 4 women experiencing severe physical violence by an intimate partner
11 at some point; and

12 WHEREAS, San Francisco alone receives an average of 20 calls to 911 and almost 60
13 crisis line calls per day related to domestic violence according to the San Francisco
14 Department on the Status of Women’s 2011 Comprehensive Report on Family Violence in
15 San Francisco; and

16 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco has taken ground-breaking and
17 innovative steps to fight violence against women, children, and men, including but not limited
18 to being the first city in the world to enact a local ordinance reflecting the principles of the
19 United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
20 (CEDAW) which is commonly known as the international bill of rights for women, establishing
21 the Justice and Courage Oversight Panel on Domestic Violence Policy Reform in San
22 Francisco in 2002, and successfully implementing 121 of the Panel’s recommended reforms
23 city-wide; and

24 WHEREAS, Due to the tireless efforts and work of courageous advocates and
25 survivors of domestic violence, anti-domestic violence community-based organizations,

1 domestic violence shelters, the Commission and Department on the Status of Women, the
2 Justice and Courage Oversight Panel, the Domestic Violence Consortium, the Family
3 Violence Council, our local law enforcement agencies and District Attorney's office, have
4 resulted in an unprecedented 44 months without a domestic violence fatality from June 2010
5 to January 2014; and

6 WHEREAS, Despite all of the indefatigable and collaborative work of anti-violence
7 advocates in the community and in local government that have established San Francisco as
8 a national model in how to handle domestic violence cases, we know that there is still more
9 work that we must do to end domestic violence; and

10 WHEREAS, Between January 28th and October 15th of this year, four women
11 horrifically lost their lives due to domestic violence and left behind devastated and grieving
12 loved ones, family, and communities who must struggle every day with the heartbreaking loss
13 of their loved ones; and

14 WHEREAS, California Penal Code 11163.3 allows a county to establish an interagency
15 domestic violence death review team to ensure that incidents of domestic violence and abuse
16 are recognized and that agency involvement is reviewed to develop recommendations for
17 policies and protocols for community prevention and intervention initiatives to reduce and
18 eradicate the incidence of domestic violence; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the City and County
20 of San Francisco to support the reconvening of the San Francisco Domestic Violence Death
21 Review Team in collaboration with the domestic violence communities, the Commission and
22 Department on the Status of Women, and local law enforcement agencies with the primary
23 goal being to prevent any future domestic violence deaths in our City.

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