

1 [City Attorney Pursuit of Costs associated with Protests.]

2 **Resolution urging the Police Department to itemize their expenses associated with the**
3 **March 20, 21, and 22, 2003 protests and forward that information on to the City**
4 **Attorney; and, urging the City Attorney to pursue all legal remedies against those**
5 **responsible for organizing these crippling demonstrations in order to recover the costs**
6 **incurred by the City and County of San Francisco that resulted.**
7

8 WHEREAS, From March 20, 2003 until March 22, 2003; the San Francisco Police
9 Department peacefully arrested over 2,000 individuals charged with, among other citations,
10 blocking traffic and failing to follow police orders; and,
11

12 WHEREAS, Estimates for the costs associated with the Police Department's and other
13 City Department's efforts to peacefully bring order back to the streets of San Francisco range
14 from \$500,000 to over \$1,000,000 per day; and,

15 WHEREAS, In addition to the costs incurred by the City and County of San Francisco,
16 thousands of members of the San Francisco workforce were prevented from getting to their
17 workplace and may have financially suffered from the demonstrations; and,

18 WHEREAS, Numerous businesses in the Market Street area and Financial District
19 suffered financial setbacks due to the demonstrations; and,

20 WHEREAS, Emergency vehicles were prevented from responding in an efficient
21 manner to calls for assistance; and,

22 WHEREAS, San Francisco has a long history of supporting the First Amendment; and,

23 WHEREAS, San Francisco also has a long history of protecting the rights of all
24 individuals, including those individuals who simply want to go to work and live their lives
25 peacefully without disturbing others; and,

1 WHEREAS, Organizers of the protests on March 20, 2003 and subsequent days have
2 been very clear that their intent was not simply to voice their disagreement with our country's
3 foreign policy and thereby exercise their First Amendment right, but instead to "shut down the
4 financial district of San Francisco and stop business as usual" (<http://www.actagainstwar.org>)
5 thereby infringing on the rights of all San Franciscans and demonstrating a criminal intent;
6 and,

7 WHEREAS, Organizers of City events like the recently held Chinese New Year and St.
8 Patrick's Day Parades are required to pay fees to the City for cleanup costs and security
9 costs; and,

10 WHEREAS, Organizers of last week's protest have paid no fees to the City and County
11 of San Francisco to compensate the City for the hundreds of thousands of dollars they forced
12 the City to expend; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Police Department to itemize
14 their expenses associated with the March 20, 21, and 22, 2003 protests and to forward that
15 information on to the City Attorney; and, be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the City Attorney to
17 pursue all legal remedies against those responsible for organizing the crippling
18 demonstrations in order to recover the costs incurred by the City and County of San
19 Francisco that resulted.

20
21
22
23
24
25