

1 [Declaring September 2008 as Reentry Month]

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3 **Resolution Declaring the Month of September 2008 as Reentry Month in the City and**
4 **County of San Francisco.**

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7 WHEREAS, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation housed
8 169,949 people in 2008, the largest prison population in the nation and four times the number
9 in 1980; and

10 WHEREAS, the number of felons paroled from California prisons has skyrocketed in
11 recent years from 9,776 in 1997, to 50,512 in 1987, to 121,015 in 1997, to 126,559 in 2008;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, in 2008, 126,559 adults and juveniles in California were on parole; and

14 WHEREAS, nearly one in five parolees in the United States lives in California; and

15 WHEREAS, in 2008, the U.S. incarcerates a larger proportion of its adult population
16 than does any other country in the world, with one of every 100 U.S. adults incarcerated in jail
17 or prison, up from 1 of every 142 in 2002; and

18 WHEREAS, San Francisco has over 2,000 adults on state parole and 7,400 adults on
19 county probation; and

20 WHEREAS, the recidivism rate for San Francisco and the State as a whole is between
21 60% and 75%; and

22 WHEREAS, it is estimated that 75% of San Francisco probationers and parolees are in
23 need of substance abuse treatment, 70% are in need of education and employment services,
24 47% are in need of housing, and 28% are n need of mental health treatment; and

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1 WHEREAS, at a time when San Francisco is experiencing an epidemic of violence,
2 ensuring that parolees and probationers are supported and prepared to reenter society is
3 crucial to restoring peace on our streets; and

4 WHEREAS, a broad coalition of public officials, community-based organizations,
5 formerly incarcerated individuals, and other concerned public and private partners have come
6 together to form the ad hoc Safe Communities Reentry Council and the San Francisco
7 Reentry Council; and

8 WHEREAS, this broad coalition has expressed full support for the proposed ordinance
9 to create a formal and single Reentry Council as an advisory body to the Mayor and Board of
10 Supervisors; and

11 WHEREAS, the Safe Communities Reentry Council is hosting the 3rd Annual Reentry
12 Summit focused on workforce development for formerly incarcerated individuals on
13 September 29, 2008 at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts; and

14 WHEREAS, the Office of the District Attorney will host a celebration for graduates of
15 the Back on Track Reentry Initiative on September 11, 2008 at the San Francisco Superior
16 Courthouse; and

17 WHEREAS, the Northern California Service League will host its Annual Re-entry
18 Conference and Job Fair on September 18, 2008 at the State Building; and

19 WHEREAS, Goodwill Industries will be launching a training series on September 18,
20 2008, assisting ex-offenders in finding and retaining meaningful employment; and

21 WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Department has successfully implemented innovative reentry
22 programs such as the Women's Reentry Center and the No Violence Alliance (NoVA)
23 Program; and

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1 WHEREAS, the Office of the Public Defender continues to serve thousands of clients
2 every year through its Clean Slate Program and Reentry Services Program; and

3 WHEREAS, the Mayor has identified ensuring successful reentry as a key objective of
4 the 2008-2013 Violence Prevention Plan; therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
6 declares September 2008 as “Reentry Month” in the City and County of San Francisco.

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