

1 [Chief Joanne Hayes-White Day - May 5, 2019]

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3 **Resolution commending and honoring Chief Joanne Hayes-White for her outstanding**
4 **service as the San Francisco Fire Chief; and declaring May 5, 2019, as Chief Joanne**
5 **Hayes-White Day in the City and County of San Francisco.**

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7 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco does hereby declare the following:
8 Fire Chief Joanne Hayes-White has been the utmost loyal servant to the people of the City
9 and County of San Francisco for the past 29 years; and

10 WHEREAS, Chief Hayes-White is a proud San Francisco native, born into an Irish-
11 Catholic family, and attended St. Stephens (Go Cougars!) and Mercy High School (Go
12 Female Skippers!), where she was an all-star athlete and recipient of the first Anne Marie
13 “Murf” award - given annually to one senior who exemplified courage, leadership, service and
14 sportsmanship; and

15 WHEREAS, The Mercy Skippers can sure spot them early, as these very skills are
16 what led her to make the bold choice in 1990 to become a San Francisco firefighter as one of
17 the very first females hired at the Fire Department, after first obtaining her Business Degree
18 from the University of Santa Clara; and

19 WHEREAS, Chief Hayes-White was a frontline firefighter and a part of several engine
20 companies as she climbed the professional ladder and held such titles as: Lieutenant and
21 Captain as *company officers*, and those ranked higher such as Battalion Chief, Assistant
22 Deputy Chief, and Director of Training as *chief officers*, before being appointed by Mayor
23 Gavin Newsom as the very first female Fire Chief in San Francisco history; and

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1 WHEREAS, During her tenure as the Fire Chief, she led the Department with integrity,
2 fearlessness and dedication, recruiting many of today’s firefighters and knowing them all by
3 name, which is very impressive considering there are over a thousand officers; and

4 WHEREAS, During her career of 29 years within the San Francisco Fire Department
5 some of her accomplishments and collaborations include unifying the Fire, EMS, and Police
6 dispatch communications, Random On-Duty Alcohol and Drug Testing, and the
7 reconfiguration of Emergency Medical Services; however, her biggest accomplishments over
8 the years have been raising three amazing boys: Riley, Logan and Sean; and

9 WHEREAS, Chief Hayes-White set herself up to be an inspirational leader to women
10 as the Fire Chief in San Francisco, the only female urban Fire Chief in the world, and the 2018
11 Career Fire Chief of the Year, and has proven to girls everywhere that breaking that glass
12 ceiling is possible and worth it; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That on behalf of the people of San Francisco, the San Francisco Board
14 of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco are forever grateful to Chief Joanne
15 Hayes-White for her outstanding service to San Francisco; and, be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED, That after all this time and careful planning and effort, Chief, it
17 is time to put down the charged hose and backflow preventer, leave the buffer zone line to
18 another officer, and tell the engine company you will not be on the inspection line - for you
19 have completed all of your official duties, your work has concluded, and we are happy you are
20 able to hang up your uniform; and, be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors wishes Chief
22 Joanne Hayes-White all the best in her well-deserved retirement, many relaxing days in her
23 next chapter, and declare May 5, 2019, to be “Chief Joanne Hayes-White Day” in the City and
24 County of San Francisco.

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