

1 [Naming a Portion of the Carolina Street Stairway at Carolina and 20th Streets as Jack
2 Balestreri Way]

3 **Ordinance establishing the name for a portion of the Carolina Street stairway at**
4 **Carolina and 20th Streets, that connects the Carolina Street cul-de-sac, as “Jack**
5 **Balestreri Way;” commemorating this location under Public Works Code, Sections 789**
6 **et seq., the Commemorative Street Plaque Ordinance, in honor of Mr. Balestreri;**
7 **waiving fees for the street naming process; and directing official acts in furtherance of**
8 **this Ordinance.**

9 NOTE: Additions are *single-underline italics Times New Roman*;
10 deletions are ~~*strike-through italics Times New Roman*~~.
11 Board amendment additions are double-underlined;
12 Board amendment deletions are ~~strike through normal~~.

13 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

14 Section 1. Findings.

15 (a) In 1916, Jack Balestreri, born to Sicilian immigrants, started life on “Goat Hill,” also
16 known as Potrero Hill. He started his first job at 7 years old in a machine shop. In 1933, when
17 he was only 17 years old, Mr. Balestreri was hired to do concrete work on the south tower of
18 the Golden Gate Bridge and the San Francisco anchorage, a job he held for 3 years. The
19 Golden Gate Bridge is one of the most internationally recognized symbols of San Francisco,
20 California, and the United States. The American Society of Civil Engineers has declared the
21 Golden Gate Bridge one of the Wonders of the Modern World. With the earnings from his
22 days on the Bridge, Mr. Balestreri paid for and built the stairs that sat alongside his house on
23 Carolina and 20th Street.

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1 (b) Jack Balestreri grew up playing baseball with the likes of Dominic and Joe
2 DiMaggio. He played professionally for the Ponca City Angels in Oklahoma and the
3 Sacramento Solons of the Pacific Coast League.

4 (c) Jack Balestreri learned the sheet metal trade and was a member of Sheet Metal
5 Workers Union Local 104 for 70 years. During World War II, he worked at the Bethlehem
6 Steel shipyard at the foot of Potrero Hill. It was there that he met his sweetheart Marina, and
7 married her in 1943. After the War, Mr. Balestreri worked as a draftsman at Scott Mechanical
8 Contractors in San Francisco for nearly 40 years.

9 (d) In 1987, Mayor Dianne Feinstein honored Jack Balestreri with a key to the City at
10 the 50th anniversary of the Golden Gate Bridge's opening. In 2012, nearly a month before the
11 75th anniversary of the opening of the Golden Gate Bridge, Jack Balestreri passed away at
12 age 95. He was the last surviving member of the original workforce that built the Bridge.

13 (e) Jack Balestreri was one of the quiet people who helped to build San Francisco. He
14 was born and raised in the City, and was a wonderful neighbor to all on Carolina Street for 95
15 years.

16 (f) Mr. Balestreri built the stairs for which this proposed legislation seeks to honor him.
17 Local residents already know these stairs today as "Jack's stairs," and fondly remember his
18 stories about growing up on "Goat Hill."

19 (g) The unnamed pedestrian stairway on the northern portion of Carolina Street at
20 Carolina and 20th Streets that connects to Carolina Street would be a relevant, meaningful,
21 and appropriate stairway to name in honor Jack Balestreri and his contribution to building San
22 Francisco.

23 (h) The Department of Public Works, on behalf of the City, has complied with the
24 California Streets and Highway Code Section 970.5, and properly posted the public right-of-
25 way area subject to this street name establishment for the specified time period. Evidence of

1 this posting is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. _____
2 and is incorporated herein by reference.

3 Section 2. Naming the Stairway on the Northern Portion of Carolina Street as Jack
4 Balestreri Way.

5 (a) Consistent with the San Francisco Public Works Code, California Streets and
6 Highways Code Sections 970.5, 971, and 5026, and California Government Code Section
7 34091.1, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby establishes the name of the
8 unnamed stairway on the northern portion of Carolina Street at Carolina and 20th Streets that
9 connects the Carolina Street cul-de-sac as "Jack Balestreri Way."

10 (b) The Board's action is done in recognition of Jack Balestreri and his enormous
11 contribution to the City and County of San Francisco and the local community, including his
12 building of the stairs that now officially will bare his name.

13 Section 3. Commemoration of Jack Balestreri Way.

14 The Board of Supervisors declares its intent to commemorate the abovementioned
15 stairway in accordance with Public Works Code Sections 789 et seq., the Commemorative
16 Street Plaque Ordinance, in honor of Jack Balestreri.

17 Section 4. Fee Waiver.

18 Notwithstanding any contrary provision of the Public Works Code, the Board of
19 Supervisors hereby waives all fees associated with establishing the name for this unnamed
20 portion of the public right-of-way.

21 Section 5. Requested Official Actions.

22 (a) The San Francisco Board of Supervisors requests the Department of Public Works,
23 in conjunction with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency, if feasible, to install a
24 sign(s) identifying this stairway as "Jack Balestreri Way."
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1 (b) The Board of Supervisors directs the Department of Public Works to add this
2 stairway to the Official City Map of commemorative sites.

3 (c) The Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board to promptly forward a copy
4 of this Ordinance to the County Surveyor in accordance with California Streets and Highways
5 Code Section 5026.

6 Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective 30 days from the
7 date of passage.

8 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
9 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

10 By: _____
11 John D. Malamut
12 Deputy City Attorney

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