

1 [Commending Denese Becker aka Dominga]

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3 **Resolution commending Denese Becker aka (Dominga) for her courage to become a**
4 **witness in a landmark human rights case brought against the Guatemalan military for**
5 **the crime of genocide at Rio Negro, Guatamala on March 13, 1982.**

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7 WHEREAS, **Dominga** at the age of nine survived a massacre of the Mayan peasants
8 at Rio Negro, Guatemala on March 13, 1982; and

9 WHEREAS, **Dominga** was adopted and grew up in Iowa after the brutal murder of her
10 parents and hundreds of other villagers in the Rio Negro massacre and subsequent dumping
11 of their bodies in a mass grave, and

12 WHEREAS, **Dominga** returned to Guatemala and joined in a human rights case as a
13 witness against the perpetrators of the massacre, demanded the exhumation of the Rio Negro
14 massacre victims to establish their identity and re-buried the victims in a new gravesite called
15 Monument to the Truth; and

16 WHEREAS, **Dominga** is the subject of the documentary film, "Discovering Dominga",
17 which chronicles the courage and commitment to truth and justice that this incredible woman
18 has consistently displayed in her tireless actions; and,

19 WHEREAS, due to the persistence of **Dominga**, a genocide trial of the generals
20 responsible for the massacre is moving forward with the determination that justice will be met
21 for the Mayan victims, and; now, therefore, be it;

22 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
23 commend **Dominga** for her commitment to justice and truth for her family and the families of
24 all who were victims at Rio Negro, Guatemala, on March 13, 1982.

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