File No	. 100016	_
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Committee Item No.
Board Item No.

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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OTHER (Use back side if additional space	e is needed)
Completed by: Annette Lonich Date January 7, 2010	
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An asterisked item represents the cover sheet to a document that exceeds 25 pages. The complete document is in the file.

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[Body Armor Prohibition.]

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> Supervisor Chiu BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Resolution urging the Supreme Court to Review Lower Court's Ruling Overturning Ban on Felons Owning or Wearing Body Armor.

WHEREAS, In 1994, San Francisco Police Officer James Guelff was killed by a violent criminal armed with 1,000 rounds of ammunition, five high-powered weapons, and wearing body armor; and

WHEREAS, In 1997, head-to-toe body armor-clad bank robbers in North Hollywood engaged in a lengthy shootout with Los Angeles Police that left 11 officers and six civilians wounded; and

WHEREAS, In response to these violent crimes, in 1998, the California State Legislature imposed a ban on the possession of body armor by any person with a violent felony conviction; and,

WHEREAS, This ban is of vital importance to both law enforcement personnel and the public, as recent studies have shown that nearly 40 percent of police departments have reported an increase in the use of assault weapons; and,

WHEREAS, This ban provides an important tool for law enforcement to enhance sentencing of violent felons to remove them from the streets; and,

WHEREAS, On December 17, 2009, the Second District Court of Appeal in Los Angeles overturned this ban, ruling in People v. Saleem that the ban was "unconstitutionally void for vagueness because it does not provide fair notice of which protective body vests constitute the body armor made illegal by the statute;" and

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WHEREAS, In effect, this ruling overturns the 1998 California law that bans possession of body armor by anyone with a violent felony conviction under the guise of protecting unaware felons who may not be aware what constitutes prohibited body armor; and

WHEREAS, The impact of this ruling on law enforcement and the community at large cannot be underestimated, as the use of body armor by violent felons places police officers and the public at an unfair disadvantage by allowing violent felons to remain impervious to law enforcement attempts to quickly curtail violent felonies in progress; and

WHEREAS, California State Attorney General Jerry Brown has announced that he will ask the California State Supreme Court to review the Second District Court of Appeal's ruling that California Penal Code Section 12370 is "unconstitutionally void for vagueness;" now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the California Supreme Court to Immediately grant California Attorney General Jerry Brown's request for a review of Second District Court of Appeal's ruling in People v. Saleem.

INTRODUCTION FORM

By a member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor



I hereby submit the following item for introduction: 1. For reference to Committee: An ordinance, resolution, motion, or charter amendment. 2. Request for next printed agenda without reference to Committee 3. Request for Committee hearing on a subject matter. 4. Request for letter beginning "Supervisor _____ inquires...". 5. City Attorney request. ___ 6. Call file from Committee. 7. Budget Analyst request (attach written motion). 8. Substitute Legislation File Nos. Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following: □Youth Commission ☐ Small Business Commission ☐ Planning Commission □ Ethics Commission ☐ Building Inspection Commission Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a different form.] Sponsor(s): Supervisor David Chiu SUBJECT: People v. Saleem: 2nd District Court's overruling of ban on body armor The text is listed below or attached: Resolution urging the Supreme Court to review lower court's ruling overturning ban on felons owning or wearing body armor. Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:

For Clerk's Use Only:

Revised 2/6/06