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CITY OF OAKLAND



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July 24, 2018

**HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL**  
Oakland, California

**Re: Resolution Honoring Richard Illgen for 19 Years of Exemplary  
Service to the City of Oakland**

Dear President Reid and Members of the Council:

Attached is a resolution recognizing Richard Illgen for his service to the City of Oakland.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barbara J. Parker', written in a cursive style.

BARBARA J. PARKER  
City Attorney

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Oakland City Attorney's Office

## OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY CITY ATTORNEY BARBARA J. PARKER  
AND CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT LARRY REID

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### RESOLUTION HONORING RICHARD ILLGEN FOR 19 YEARS OF EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO THE CITY OF OAKLAND

**WHEREAS**, Supervising Deputy City Attorney Richard Illgen will retire on September 7, 2018 after 19 years of service to the residents and the City of Oakland; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Illgen has served Oakland with distinction and expertise as an attorney and a leader in the City Attorney's Office; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Illgen joined the City Attorney's Office in 1999 as a Deputy City Attorney focusing on redevelopment, rent and real estate matters; and

**WHEREAS**, during his tenure Richard Illgen has served as lead attorney or worked on many complex, challenging and high-profile development projects in Oakland, including the Rotunda Building, the Fox Theater, the Bermuda Building and the former Oakland Army Base; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Illgen is a leading expert on landlord/tenant law and has advised the Oakland Rent Board for many years, bringing a voice of equanimity and fairness to an often contentious environment; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Illgen has handled significant litigation matters including a successful defense of Oakland's Just Cause for Eviction Ordinance in California Court of Appeal; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Illgen has drafted and spearheaded many major pieces of legislation that the City Council adopted, including but not limited to Oakland's Illegal Dumping Ordinance, Graffiti Enforcement Ordinance, Tenant Move out Ordinance, Tenant Protection Ordinance and Ellis Act Ordinance, as well as numerous amendments other ordinances and regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Illgen supervised the City Attorney's award-winning Neighborhood Law Corps program for approximately five years, and in that role, mentored a number of young attorneys, supervised and coordinated law suits that resulted in the closure of hotels and massage parlors that engaged in human trafficking/prostitution activity, and supervised cases that resulted in court monitors or receiverships for a number of substandard rental properties including the Hillside Apartments, the West Grand Hotel and the Empyrean Hotel; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Illgen served as lead attorney on the scene of the tragic Ghost Ship fire and on issues arising after that event; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Illgen was born in Oakland, grew up in East Oakland, attended Oakland public schools and graduated from Fremont High School, where he was student body president; and

**WHEREAS**, for ten years immediately prior to joining the Oakland City Attorney's Office, Richard Illgen was the executive director of an Oakland non-profit housing corporation that rehabilitated housing, built new housing, and ran job training programs in Oakland; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Illgen earned an undergraduate degree in political science and urban studies from the University of California, Berkeley and graduated from Golden Gate University School of Law; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Illgen has a long history of activism and public service in the East Bay, including terms on the City of Berkeley Rent Board and the City of Berkeley Planning Commission in the 1980s, and leadership of a successful ballot measure enacting the first rent control law in California in 1972; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Illgen also practiced law in Alaska for eight years with a law firm that represented the State of Alaska in suing Exxon over the Exxon Valdez oil spill, in addition to handling matters for Alaska's cities; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Illgen has advocated tirelessly for the City and People of Oakland; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That the City of Oakland thanks Richard Illgen for his wise counsel, his equanimity under pressure, his years of faithful service and his many contributions to the public good; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the Mayor, City Council and City Attorney wish Richard Illgen success and fulfillment in the next phase of his illustrious career.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, GUILLÉN, KALB,  
KAPLAN, AND PRESIDENT REID

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
LATONDA SIMMONS  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the  
City of Oakland, California