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OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY VICE MAYOR LARRY REID

**RESOLUTION HONORING RAYNARD "RAY" LEON FOR MORE THAN
28 YEARS OF EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF
OAKLAND AND RECOGNIZING HIM ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
CITY OF OAKLAND**

WHEREAS, Ray Leon was born in 1956, and was raised in the City of Oakland for 63 years, attended Longfellow Grammar School, Sacred Heart on "Grove Street", Saint Mary's High School in Berkeley, and Saint Mary's College in Moraga with a Bachelor's Degree in Economics, and ultimately worked for 15 years in the Title Insurance Industry, and;

WHEREAS, Ray Leon, began his career in Real Estate in 1980, and began working for Bramalea Pacific Developers, which ultimately developed the now existing City Center Plaza in Oakland, and;

WHEREAS, Ray Leon, began his career with the City of Oakland in 1991 as a Housing Counselor Manager with the Office of Community Development (OCD) which ultimately became the Office of Housing and Neighborhood Development (OHND), under the direction of Antoinette Hewlett, Lonnie Carter and Roy Schwyer, and co-authored the First-Time Homebuyers Program (MAP and DAP) in 1992, and assisted hundreds of homeowners in maintaining their homes through Counseling Services, and;

WHEREAS, Ray Leon, was called upon to Manage and to oversee the Rent Arbitration Division for the City of Oakland for 4 years, which successfully resolved hundreds of disputes between landlords and tenants, and ultimately negotiated new provisions in the City of Oakland's Rent Ordinance, and;

WHEREAS, Ray Leon, after several years of working in Housing Development for the City of Oakland, left and worked for then San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown, in the San Francisco Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH) for 3 years, and, shortly thereafter, reunited with the City of Oakland, in the office of Council Member Larry E. Reid, as a Policy Analyst, working on Housing and Economic Development Policies for the City of Oakland, and in particular, Council District 7, and;

WHEREAS, Ray Leon, has assisted and worked on notable projects for Council Member Reid, such as the Small Business Symposium for 8 years, which attracted more than 700 small business owners, as well as coordinated tours for Development Sites and Homebuyers with local Lenders and Financial Institutions, the Association of Realtors and Housing Developers, and;

WHEREAS, Ray Leon, was instrumental in working on and assisting in several development projects such as Coliseum Connections, Palm Villas, The Acts Cyrene Apartments, Foothill Square, Lions Creek, as well as projects located on 98th Avenue and MacArthur, and 98th Avenue and Edes (AMCAL), and;

WHEREAS, Ray Leon, assisted and helped to coordinate, under the direction of Council Member Larry Reid, the "Googie and Friends Golf Tournament, which has raised more than \$150,000 for 6 Junior Golf Programs here in the City of Oakland, and;

WHEREAS, Ray Leon, serves on the Board for the Police Activities League (PAL), and several advisory Boards, such as the Oakland Economic Development Corporation, and;

WHEREAS, Ray Leon, after serving for more than 28 years with the City of Oakland, is retiring in July of 2019, and is looking forward to hobbies and activities such as his love for the game of golf, and his passion to travel and watch over his loving family, his son Lorne, and his granddaughter Dawn, who is the love of his life, so, therefore be it:

RESOLVED, That I, Vice Mayor Larry E. Reid, and the Oakland City Council commend and honor Raynard "Ray" Leon, for more than 28 years of dedicated and exemplary service and his commitment to the people of Oakland; for his achievements and contributions towards the betterment of the residents of District 7, and the City of Oakland; and urges the support and participation of all residents in honoring him as he retires from the City of Oakland.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BAS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, TAYLOR, THAO, REID and PRESIDENT KAPLAN

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: _____
LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California