

Bruce J. Rubin
City Attorney

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER JEAN QUAN

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND
10 MAR 30 PM 1:19

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SEXUALLY EXPLOITED MINORS
AWARENESS WEEK, APRIL 19 THROUGH APRIL 24, 2010

WHEREAS, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children reported that since 1996 their Cyber Tipline has handled more than 771,000 reports of child sexual exploitation, and

WHEREAS, the Center's Child Victim Identification Program has reviewed and analyzed more than 30 million child pornography images and videos, and

WHEREAS, there are many types of exploitation of minors, including possession, manufacture, and distribution of child pornography; child prostitution; sex tourism, extra-familial sexual molestation; online enticement of sexual acts; unsolicited obscene material sent to a child; or misleading words or digital images, and

WHEREAS, children are potentially vulnerable to this exploitation, and the need for increased awareness and additional specialized services is greater than ever before, and

WHEREAS, Alameda County established the Sexually Exploited Minors (SEM) Provider Network in 2005, and

WHEREAS, this network includes the Interagency Children's Policy Council, Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court, Probation Department, Health Care Services Agency, Social Services Agency, the Oakland Police Department, and the City of Oakland, and

WHEREAS, MISSEY (Motivating, Inspiring, Supporting, and Serving, Sexually Exploited Youth) was established in July 2007 and together with the SEM Network has provided direct services to victims through their renowned SACEY/SPA (Sexually Abused and Commercially Exploited Youth/Safe Place Alternative) program , and

WHEREAS, through these services the SEM Provider Network provides a safe place for initial services, makes connections with appropriate caring adults, and begins the healing process by providing a safe house away from the immediate area and immediate reach of exploiters, and

WHEREAS, of the 100 children seen through the SACEY Program funded through Measure Y, approximately 53% of participants have lived in a group home; 88% have run away from home one or more times; over 65% have been arrested for prostitution; 75% have been raped one or more times; and 62% were on probation at the time they were referred to our program; and,

WHEREAS, between July 2007 and January 2010 MISSEY has reached out to more than 400 youth through SACEY/SPA, and many MISSEY clients have successfully transitioned out of "the life", and

WHEREAS, the SEM Network continues to collaborate and has expanded its services to address the entire welfare of children who are vulnerable to exploitation or who are already sexually exploited, and

WHEREAS, during the week of April 19 through April 24, 2010, the Alameda County Interagency Children's Policy Council and their partners in the Sexually Exploited Minor Provider Network have organized several activities in an effort to promote awareness through knowledge, now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, the Oakland City Council continues to demonstrate its commitment to bringing awareness of this horrific issue to the community, to protecting children from any and all exploitation, and to working with government and nongovernmental agencies to eradicate the harmful actions against children by proclaiming April 19 through April 24 as Sexually Exploited Minors Awareness Week.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20_____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BROOKS, DE LA FUENTE, KAPLAN, NADEL, REID, QUAN, KERNIGHAN and PRESIDENT BRUNNER

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

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