



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE U.S. 65TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, THE BORINQUENEERS FOR THEIR SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congressional Gold Medal, considered the most distinguished, is an award bestowed by the United States Congress and is, along with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award in the United States; it is given to persons who have performed an achievement that has an impact on American history and culture that is likely to be recognized as a major achievement in the recipient's field long after the achievement; by every measure, the Borinqueneers are such individuals; and

WHEREAS, as mandated by Congress in 1899, the 65th Infantry Regiment, hailing from Puerto Rico, was the only Hispanic-segregated unit ever in the United States Armed Forces that played a prominent role in American military history, having participated in three wars in which the United States was engaged: World War I, World War II, and most notably, the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, the Borinqueneers were willing to shed their blood, sweat and tears for democracy by enlisting in the United States Armed Forces on their own accord to defend the freedoms of others ; and

WHEREAS, the 65th Infantry Regiment served with distinction and valor, earning two Presidential Unit Citations, an Army Unit Superior Award, a Navy Unit Citation, two Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citations and the Bravery Gold Medal of Greece; and

WHEREAS, the 65th Infantry Regiment was arguably the most ethnically diverse fighting military unit in U.S. combat history comprising of Puerto Rican, African-American, Mexican-American, Philippine, and Virgin Island soldiers as well as soldiers of many other ethnicities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, that the U.S. 65th Infantry Regiment, the Borinqueneers, are recognized for their painful sacrifices; selfless service; gallantry in battle; great contributions, and steadfast loyalty for the good of the United States of America and also commend the efforts of the original (1934) "U.S. 65th Infantry Regiment Association" who are the principle keepers of the Borinqueneers' brave flame of devotion to: Duty, Honor and Country.

PASSED AND ADOPTED By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, on this 5th day of November, 2013, by a unanimous vote of all the members.



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Supervisor - 1st District

Grant Wray

Supervisor - 2nd District