

1 [Proclaiming January 15, 2005, Paul Boden Day in San Francisco.]

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3 **Resolution proclaiming January 15, 2005 as Paul Boden Day.**

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5 WHEREAS, Paul Boden began his career as a homeless person and soon became an  
6 advocate for other homeless people while staying and volunteering at Central City Hospitality  
7 House (CCH) and acting as a volunteer in 1981; and,

8 WHEREAS, Paul Boden advocated for and obtained the first formal declaration from  
9 the City of San Francisco forbidding owners of tourist hotels to "double people up" in tiny  
10 rooms; and,

11 WHEREAS, In 1987, Mr. Boden founded the Coalition on Homelessness (COH) as an  
12 organization of homeless people, providers, and advocates to act as a voice of and for  
13 homeless people; and,

14 WHEREAS, In 1990, Mr. Boden co-drafted the document "Transitional Housing - the  
15 Next Step" which led to the creation of the Community Housing Partnership (CHP), so that  
16 homeless people could have permanent, affordable housing with on-site supportive services  
17 and employment opportunities instead of doing the "28 day shuffle"; and,

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Boden served as Board President of the CHP for 10 years, guiding the  
19 organization through its early years as a new organization; and,

20 WHEREAS, For over 17 years, Paul Boden led the COH through many victories such  
21 as the creation of the CHP, which together with other organizations resulted in hundreds of  
22 units of housing run by and for homeless people, the Treatment on Demand campaign which  
23 resulted in thousands of new substance abuse treatment slots, and the Shelter Grievance  
24 Project, which made San Francisco the first place in the country where shelter residents had  
25 the right to independent due process before being put out of the shelter system; and,

1           WHEREAS, In 1990, Mr. Boden made his first appearance on national television on  
2 "Nightline" with Ted Koppel, learning the value of speaking in "sound bites" that he used well  
3 ever since on countless national and local television, radio and newspaper media; and,

4           WHEREAS, In 1995, Mr. Boden envisioned and helped to create a new type of training  
5 program called HOMEWORC that based its training on teaching line staff in service  
6 organizations the skills they needed to move up into management positions and "break the  
7 glass ceiling"; and,

8           WHEREAS, Mr. Boden helped stave off massive cuts to social programs year after  
9 year; ensured homeless families were recognized when homelessness was being discussed  
10 and infused such reforms into the Housing Authority as filling vacant units, violence transfers,  
11 homeless preferences, community liaison an revolving fund; and,

12           WHEREAS, As Coalition Director, he helped initiate the creation of annual reports on  
13 the mental health system, the shelter system, the substance abuse treatment system, welfare  
14 system and more; and,

15           WHEREAS, Mr. Boden spent countless hours on every official homeless plan to come  
16 out of San Francisco including Beyond Shelter, Continuum of Care Plan (1996, 2001) and the  
17 Ten Year Plan of 2004; and,

18           WHEREAS, Paul Boden took a leadership role in ensuring a quality alternative  
19 newspaper, the Street Sheet, that allows the writing, artwork, and poetry of disenfranchised  
20 homeless people to enter the discourse of the San Francisco population; and,

21           WHEREAS, Mr. Boden played a visionary and leadership role in strengthening many  
22 community organizations as a Board member, such as Central City Hospitality House and  
23 CHP; and,

24           WHEREAS, Mr. Boden worked tirelessly for over ten years, through 4 administrations  
25 to win the passage of a Shelter Monitoring Committee; and

1           WHEREAS, Paul Boden spearheaded efforts to fill gaps in the homeless service  
2 system by fighting for the creation of such programs as A Women's Place, McMillan Drop-In  
3 Center, Oshun Center, and the Mission Resource Center; and,

4           WHEREAS, Mr. Boden worked to ensure homeless people had a strong, loud, clear  
5 and articulate voice in the design and monitoring of homeless policies and programs in San  
6 Francisco and across the country; and,

7           WHEREAS, Beginning in 1994, Paul Boden served as member of the Board of  
8 Directors for 8 years of the National Coalition for the Homeless; he helped restructure the  
9 organization, stave off cuts to federal homeless and housing programs, introduce federal  
10 legislation affecting homeless people, and draft the "Bring America Home Act" that is currently  
11 making its way through Congress; and,

12           WHEREAS, Paul Boden helped countless homeless people fight through their own  
13 struggle to become fighters on their own; and,

14           WHEREAS, Mr. Boden is a person whose opinions and advice are sought by even  
15 those who oppose him - mayors, business people, city staff and supervisors - because of his  
16 ability to understand the many dimensions of a complex, political situation; and,

17           WHEREAS, Paul Boden is a voice of practicality that has been a symbolic face of  
18 homeless advocacy for over 20 years; and,

19           WHEREAS, Mr. Boden has never given up fighting in a passionate, uncompromising,  
20 selfless and unique manner for the rights of the poorest, most disenfranchised and vulnerable  
21 members of our society-and never will; and,

22           WHEREAS, Paul Boden will leave COH on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2005 to focus on improving  
23 homeless policies at the federal level; now, therefore, be it

24           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby declares January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2005 as  
25 "Paul Boden Day " in the City and County of San Francisco.



City and County of San Francisco

City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails  
Resolution

File Number: 050027

Date Passed:

Resolution proclaiming January 15, 2005 as Paul Boden Day.

January 11, 2005 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Ma, Maxwell,  
McGoldrick, Mirkarimi, Peskin, Sandoval

File No. 050027

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution  
was ADOPTED on January 11, 2005 by the  
Board of Supervisors of the City and County  
of San Francisco.

JAN 21 2005

Date Approved

Gloria L. Young  
Clerk of the Board

Mayor Gavin Newsom