

1 [Commemorating Diane Whipple]

2 Resolution commemorating Diane Whipple one year after her tragic
3 death and declaring Friday, January 25th a day in her memory.
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5 WHEREAS, On January 25, 2001 Sharon Smith and Diane Alexis
6 Whipple were living their lives as a committed lesbian couple in
7 the City of San Francisco, and on that day Sharon's life with
8 Diane ended in a most gruesome and unimaginable way; and,

9 WHEREAS, Diane Whipple was killed in a horrific attack by a
10 dog residing in her building and this attack had a sad and
11 profound effect upon the community; and,

12 WHEREAS, Diane Alexis Whipple was born on January 21, 1968
13 in Princeton, New Jersey, but her hometown for most of her life
14 was Manhasset Long Island where she grew up and went to high
15 school; and,

16 WHEREAS, Diane was raised primarily by her Grandparents and
17 she was a great athlete, even becoming a two time member of the
18 World Cup team in Lacrosse and coming within seconds of
19 qualifying for the 1996 Olympic Team in the 800 meters; and,

20 WHEREAS, Sharon met Diane and they moved to San Francisco,
21 where Diane became an inspiring coach and teacher when she
22 assumed the position as the Lacrosse coach at St. Mary's
23 college; and,

24 WHEREAS, Sharon suffered a tremendous loss with the death
25 of her partner, but showed great courage by taking action to

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1 change the legal landscape for lesbian and gay surviving
2 partners in the United States; and,

3 WHEREAS, Sharon made the decision to file her Wrongful
4 Death action, to legally hold defendant's accountable for their
5 negligence and recklessness; and,

6 WHEREAS, Never before had a lesbian surviving partner been
7 legally recognized as a spouse entitled to bring such an action
8 making it an historic case; and,

9 WHEREAS, Sharon Smith's fight has been a key factor in the
10 recent gains made in California and the national dialogue that
11 continues about the legal status of lesbians and gay men; and,

12 WHEREAS, A part of the very reason Sharon took on the
13 challenge was to assure that no other surviving partner would
14 have to face the insult of being told that his or her
15 relationship was legally meaningless; now, therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and
17 County of San Francisco do hereby commemorate Diane Whipple one
18 year after her tragic death and declare Friday, January 25th a
19 day in her memory.
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City and County of San Francisco

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

Tails
Resolution

File Number: 020113

Date Passed:

Resolution commemorating Diane Whipple one year after her tragic death and declaring Friday, January 25th a day in her memory.

January 22, 2002 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

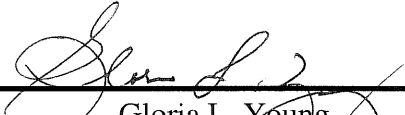
Ayes: 10 - Ammiano, Daly, Gonzalez, Hall, Leno, Maxwell, McGoldrick,
Newsom, Peskin, Sandoval

Absent: 1 - Yee


File No. 020113

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on January 22, 2002 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

FEB 01 2002


Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board

Date Approved


Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.