Urging the United States Department of State to Condemn the Government of Iran for
Sentencing Sakineh Mohammadi Ashtiani to Death by Stoning]

Resolution urging the United States Department of State to condemn the Government
of Iran under Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei for sentencing Sakineh
Mohammadi Ashtiani to death by stoning for the crime of “adultery while being
married.”

WHEREAS, In 2006, Sakineh Mohammadi Ashtiani, a mother of two, and a citizen of
Iran, was convicted in an Iranian court of the crime of “adultery while being married” and
sentenced to death by stoning; and

WHEREAS, The lawyer for Ms. Ashtiani reported that she had already received 99
lashes in a separate punishment after a British newspaper ran a picture of an unveiled woman
mistakenly identified as Ms. Ashtiani; and

WHEREAS, Execution by stoning in Islam entails burying people up to their chest and
then pelting them with stones large enough to inflict tissue damage but not large enough to kill
instantly; and

WHEREAS, The person so executed is in effect tortured to death in a public display;
and

WHEREAS, Article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the
United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948, declares that “No one shall be
subjected to torture or to cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment;” and

WHEREAS, Torture with the intention of death stands clearly against Article 5 of the
Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and

Supervisor Mirkarimi
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WHEREAS, Women in Iran have no rights to divorce or custody rights of children over seven years of age; and
WHEREAS, A woman in Iran is considered to have committed a crime, punishable by death, if she chooses to look for sexual satisfaction outside of an unhappy marriage; and
WHEREAS, The United Nations Human Rights Committee has made clear that treating adultery and fornication as criminal offences does not comply with international human rights standards; and
WHEREAS, Iran is a member of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which has officially called for the banning of stoning and other cruel and inhumane methods of execution; and
WHEREAS, On September 8, 2010, the European Parliament passed a resolution condemning the Iranian government for the stoning sentence, stating that punishment by stoning is “barbaric” and “can never be justified or accepted;” and
WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco has expressed its opposition to the death penalty repeatedly, including endorsing a moratorium on executions in the United States in Resolution 632-00 and a moratorium on executions in California in Resolution No. 116-00; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED, That The Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco urges the United States Department of State to issue strong condemnations against the Islamic Republic of Iran and Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei for the practice of execution by means of torture, for human rights abuses against women, and for unequal and inhumane treatment of women under the law of the state; and, be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors condemns the criminalization of private, adult consensual sexual relations.
Resolution urging the United States Department of State to condemn the Government of Iran under Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei for sentencing Sakineh Mohammadi Ashtiani to death by stoning for the crime of "adultery while being married."

September 14, 2010 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 9 - Avalos, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Daly, Duffy, Mar, Maxwell and Mirkarimi
Absent: 2 - Alioto-Pier and Elsbernd

File No. 101119

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 9/14/2010 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Mayor Gavin Newsom

Date Approved: September 22, 2010