"Pierce's Pledge."

[Filicide Awareness Week - April 6 through April 12, 2025]

WHEREAS, April is recognized nationally as Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time to raise awareness and take action to protect children from neglect and abuse; and

Awareness Week in the City and County of San Francisco and reaffirming support for

Resolution declaring the week of April 6 through April 15, 2025, to be Filicide

WHEREAS, Among the most devastating forms of child abuse is filicide - the killing of a child by a parent or caregiver - which claims the lives of approximately 500 children in the United States each year; and

WHEREAS, Research shows that custody disputes, separations, and high-conflict legal proceedings are among the circumstances that can elevate risk, with an estimated one child each week murdered by a parent or stepparent during such times; and

WHEREAS, On January 13, 2021, six-year-old Pierce Howard Hu was tragically killed by his father while he slept, in a murder-suicide that has left an enduring impact on his mother, Lesley, and extended family, including uncles Scott and Michael and grandparents Howard and Therese; and

WHEREAS, In response to this tragedy, and in memory of Pierce, a nonprofit organization known as Pierce's Pledge was formed to protect children involved in family court proceedings by advocating for accountability and firearm safeguards; and

WHEREAS, On April 12, 2023, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution declaring the first Filicide Awareness Week and voiced its support for the mission of Pierce's Pledge; and

WHEREAS, Two years later, the need for awareness, action, and systems-level change remains as urgent as ever; and

WHEREAS, Pierce's Pledge continues to lead efforts to educate the legal community, support families affected by filicide, and promote practices that reduce the risk of violence - such as requiring clients in custody cases to disclose firearms and store them offsite with a licensed third party during legal representation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors declares the week of April 6 through April 12, 2025, as Filicide Awareness Week in the City and County of San Francisco; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reaffirms its commitment to the goals of Pierce's Pledge and commends the organization's continued work to protect children and empower family law professionals to put safety first; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges all family law attorneys to take the pledge to keep children safe during custody proceedings, including requiring the declaration and offsite storage of firearms by their clients, and to refuse representation to any client unwilling to comply; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors stands firmly against gun violence and recognizes the role that proactive firearm safety measures play in preventing domestic tragedies and protecting the lives of children.



## City and County of San Francisco Tails

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

## Resolution

File Number: 250302 Date Passed: April 08, 2025 Resolution declaring the week of April 6 through April 15, 2025, to be Filicide Awareness Week in the City and County of San Francisco and reaffirming support for "Pierce's Pledge." April 08, 2025 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED Ayes: 10 - Chan, Chen, Dorsey, Engardio, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Melgar, Sherrill and Walton Excused: 1 - Sauter File No. 250302 I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 4/8/2025 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco. Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

04/18/2025

Date

Unsigned

**Daniel Lurie** 

Mayor

04/18/2025

**Date Approved**