

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IN AND FOR THE
COUNTY OF MONTEREY, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Resolution No.)
Resolution Honoring the Life and)
Career of Neil L. Shapiro)

WHEREAS, Neil L. Shapiro received his Juris Doctor degree with honors from the University of California at Berkeley school of law (formerly known as Boalt Hall) in 1971; and

WHEREAS, Neil L. Shapiro had an outstanding career as a litigator and appellate attorney for over thirty years in San Francisco as a partner in the firms Cooper, White & Cooper; Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison; Landels, Ripley & Diamond LLP; and McCutchen Doyle Brown and Enerson LLP, before moving to the Monterey Peninsula in 2003 to open his own law practice; and

WHEREAS, Neil L. Shapiro, briefed and argued forty appeals which covered a wide range of issues, many of them related to the First Amendment issues which were particularly close to his heart, and many of which resulted in significant written opinions in favor of his clients; and

WHEREAS, Neil L. Shapiro not only served as a trial attorney and appellate attorney, but over the course of his career he also served as an arbitrator, mediator, special master, partition referee, discovery referee, and judge *pro tem*; and

WHEREAS, Neil L. Shapiro made a deep impact on the courts and legal community in Monterey County as co-founder of the Court-Directed Mediation Program and the Discovery Facilitation Program, and as co-author of the Guidelines of Civility and Professionalism which were adopted by the Monterey County Superior Court; and

WHEREAS, Neil L. Shapiro worked steadily throughout his career to increase public understanding of the law and the role of the courts in our society, from teaching classes at the middle-school level to the law school level and authoring columns in Monterey County newspapers which covered contemporary legal issues ranging from the death penalty to gay marriage and the role of civil disobedience; and

WHEREAS, Neil L. Shapiro practiced law with the highest level of integrity and civility and worked steadily to improve the level of professionalism and ethical advocacy in every legal community of which he was a member; and

WHEREAS, Neil L. Shapiro earned the respect and admiration of the entire Monterey County legal community for his skill as an attorney, his strong relationships with his clients, his tireless commitment to improving access to justice, and his willingness to help his colleagues; and

WHEREAS, Neil L. Shapiro was awarded the 2021 Lewis L. Fenton Award on November 9, 2021, an award given annually by the Monterey County Bar Association to honor an attorney with the highest levels of integrity, civility, and skill in advocacy; and

WHEREAS, Neil L. Shapiro died unexpectedly on November 13, 2021, leaving his beloved wife Sandra Meyrose and a community of friends and colleagues who mourn him deeply.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the County and all residents thereof, does hereby honor the life and career of Neil L. Shapiro, a remarkable man who exemplified the very best of the legal profession.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 7th day of December 2021.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

I, Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original resolution of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof Minute Book ____ for the meeting on December 7, 2021.

Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California

By: _____
Deputy