

County of Monterey

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 25-348

Adopt a resolution honoring **Commander Everett Alvarez Junior**, United States Navy, Retired, Naval Aviator and Hometown Hero, for his extraordinary service to the United States and in recognition of his legacy during the 250th Anniversary of the United States Navy and Marine Corps.....)

WHEREAS, Commander Everett Alvarez Junior, United States Navy, Retired, born in Salinas, California, is the grandson of Mexican immigrants and a graduate of Santa Clara University, where he earned a degree in Electrical Engineering before joining the United States Navy as an aviator in 1960; and

WHEREAS, on August 5, 1964, at the age of twenty-six and while serving aboard the USS Constellation, Commander Alvarez was shot down during a mission over North Vietnam in the immediate aftermath of the Gulf of Tonkin incident, becoming the first American aviator captured in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, Commander Alvarez endured eight years and seven months of brutal captivity at the Hỏa Lò Prison, known as the “Hanoi Hilton,” making him the second-longest-held Prisoner of War in United States history; and

WHEREAS, throughout his captivity, **Commander Alvarez** drew strength from his faith in God and from the mutual support of fellow prisoners, holding fast to the philosophy that they would never let each other down, and returning home with integrity, honor, and resilience; and

WHEREAS, following his release on February 12, 1973, **Commander Alvarez** went on to distinguished service in military, academic, legal, and government fields, earning a Master’s degree from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, a Juris Doctorate from George Washington School of Law, and serving as Deputy Director of the Peace Corps, Deputy Administrator of the Veterans Administration, and as Chief Executive Officer of Alvarez LLC; and

WHEREAS, Commander Alvarez is the author of two books recounting his experiences, has served on the Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University for twenty-one years, and with his wife Tammy, they have dedicated themselves to projects supporting wounded warriors, including the Green Road Project at Walter Reed; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his lifelong dedication to the United States, **Commander Alvarez** was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal on December 23, 2024, and on January 15, 2025, Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro announced that the seventh Constellation-class frigate would be named the USS Everett Alvarez in his honor.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Monterey Board of Supervisors on behalf of all the County and its residents, thereof, hereby recognizes **Commander Alvarez** for his extraordinary service to the United States, his steadfast courage as a Prisoner of War, and his lifelong contributions to veterans and the community, and proudly recognizes him as a Hometown Hero.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 30th day of September 2025

Chair Supervisor Chris Lopez

Vice Chair Supervisor Wendy Root Askew

Supervisor Glenn Church

Supervisor Luis A. Alejo

Supervisor Kate Daniels

