

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-94

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING
BATTALION CHIEF DENNIS M. COKER
UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY
AFTER TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS OF SERVICE**

- WHEREAS,** Dennis Coker began his career with the City of Torrance as a Firefighter on August 27, 1979. He promoted to Fire Engineer on December 28, 1986; to Fire Captain on December 31, 1988; and, to Battalion Chief on June 27, 1993; and
- WHEREAS,** as a Fire Engineer, Dennis was involved in the development of the Department's Hazardous Materials Team, assisting in the selection and purchase of the original hazardous materials team equipment; and
- WHEREAS,** as a Fire Captain, Dennis was an instructor in the Department's recruit academy. He also developed the mutual aid cache boxes that are being used by all Area G Fire Departments for station cover during major incidents. Additionally, Captain Coker developed the Department's site analysis program using the pre-plan of American Honda he created as a template for others to follow; and
- WHEREAS,** as a Fire Battalion Chief, he developed the Strike Team Leader Manual that was adopted by all Area G Fire Departments. He was responsible for the conversion of the Platoon Commander's vehicle into a Mobile Command Center; and
- WHEREAS,** as a Fire Battalion Chief, he was assigned as the Administrative Chief on two occasions, where he was involved in testings, telestaff hiring, budget, purchasing, payroll systems, and communications. Administrative Chief Coker managed the Fire Department's participation in the consolidation of the public safety Dispatch Center. He was instrumental in the role of the point person of the Fire and Police Communications co-location. Chief Coker put his best to this complicated issue of the communication co-location, the result being the successful dispatch consolidation now operational in the Police Department building; and
- WHEREAS,** Chief Coker had strong work ethics and was an effective communicator. He was a fair, friendly yet firm leader. He was a consistent contributor providing steady influence on the Department; he was loyal to the organization. Chief Coker was an excellent team player and was always willing to assist the Fire Department, the City, and the Fire Service team with their endeavors. He demonstrated sound decision-making, outstanding organizational planning, and knowledge which promoted positive relationships within the Department; and

WHEREAS, Battalion Chief Coker retired from the City's employment in December 2006 after providing 27 years of dedicated service to the City of Torrance, and unselfishly used his expertise for maximum team performance to the benefit of the Fire Department and the citizens of Torrance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Torrance, California, does hereby commend, honor, and congratulate Battalion/Administrative Chief

Dennis M. Coker

for his dedication, professionalism, and contributions to the City of Torrance while in our employ; and, be it further resolved, that Dennis be wished a full and rewarding life in his retirement years.

INTRODUCED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 19th day of December 2006.

Mayor Frank Scotto

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
JOHN FELLOWS III, City Attorney

ATTEST:

by _____
Ronald T. Pohl, Assistant City Attorney

Sue Herbers, City Clerk