

**RESOLUTION NO. 2006-31**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING AND COMMENDING  
*FIRE DIVISION CHIEF DONALD THOMPSON*  
AS THE RECIPIENT OF A SUSTAINED SUPERIORITY AWARD**

- WHEREAS,** Chief Don Thompson, who started as a Firefighter with the City in 1977, embodies the essence of this Award as a well-respected and admired Division Chief – a leader who works toward making vision a reality. Don was relentless in his efforts to acquire the knowledge and necessary skills to develop a committed and progressive Department; and
- WHEREAS,** always aspiring to make a greater impact on the future, Don studied simultaneously for two exams to fulfill promotional requirements. Upon achieving Captain, Don was involved in the development and implementation of a Hazardous Materials Program, its operating procedures and an in-house training program for which he received the Dominguez Brand Award; and
- WHEREAS,** Don was instrumental in developing enhancements for the Department such as the creation of an apparatus replacement fund, hiring process improvement, and the integration of personal computers to streamline operations – this after taking on the challenge to become one of the most computer literate in the Department; and
- WHEREAS,** having never been idle so long as there was an opportunity to help others in a consistent, compassionate and insightful manner, it was not uncommon to observe Don patiently tutoring Firefighter hopefuls, studying to learn a new skill, or receiving letters of appreciation from grateful members of the community; and
- WHEREAS,** Don’s leadership role extends beyond the workplace. From teaching youth ministry strategies in Kenya, leading a team of students to help the poor in Mexico, to leading two teams to assist in Hurricane Katrina relief efforts, Don exemplifies excellence, courage, selflessness, commitment and dedication regardless of time and place; and
- WHEREAS,** in the 29 years since Don set out as a Firefighter, he then became a Paramedic, an Engineer, a Captain, a Platoon Commander, an Administrative Chief, and currently serves as the Department’s Operations Chief. Don has made a career with lasting contributions by applying himself consistently to become a testament of exemplary leadership for many others.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Torrance, California, does hereby commend, honor, and congratulate **Fire Division Chief**

***Donald D. Thompson***

who, while protecting lives, demonstrates with sustained excellence the distinguishing marks of Torrance Firefighters: Courage, Commitment, Dedication, Service, and Professionalism.

**INTRODUCED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 25th day of April 2006.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Dan Walker

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
JOHN FELLOWS III, City Attorney

ATTEST:

by \_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald T. Pohl, Assistant City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sue Herbers, CMC  
City Clerk