

**RESOLUTION NO. 2011-89****A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING  
BATTALION CHIEF/FIRE MARSHAL  
KENDELL C. CARTER  
UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY  
AFTER THIRTY-ONE YEARS OF SERVICE**

- WHEREAS,** Ken Carter began his career with the City of Torrance as a Firefighter on June 2, 1980, and served in the capacity of Firefighter/Paramedic from March 25, 1981. He received many commendations from the public and the Fire Chief for his exceptional care and professionalism in helping the citizens of Torrance. Ken's expertise grew and he promoted through the ranks to Fire Captain on April 15, 1991, and to Battalion Chief on April 14, 1996; and
- WHEREAS,** as a Firefighter, he worked on various assignments on both engine and truck companies. As a Paramedic, he was one of the department's original EMT instructors and served as an Instructor/Paramedic preceptor responsible for training new paramedics; and
- WHEREAS,** as a Fire Captain, Ken was instrumental in developing the department's first Fire Recruit orientation program which provided more opportunities for diverse hiring. He functioned as a Fire Recruit Instructor at the department's Fire Academy. He became Assistant Fire Marshal and was involved in the development of the Fire Prevention Engine Company Inspection guidebook; and
- WHEREAS,** as a Shift Battalion Chief, Chief Carter was assigned to coordinate fire station activities and manage emergency operations. He was recognized for his efforts in providing Unified Command and Major Incident training to the Torrance Police Department. He represented the Torrance Fire Department on a United States Forest Service Type 2 Incident Management Command Team, where his team managed many large wildland fire incidents throughout California. Chief Carter represented Fire Area G on the Region One California Incident Command Certification System (CICCS) committee, a professional fire service group which evaluates qualifications and certifies personnel for wildland fire assignments; and
- WHEREAS,** Battalion Chief Carter was the President of the South Bay Chiefs Emergency Operations Section developing a "Respiratory Protection Standards Manual" that was adopted by all South Bay Fire agencies. He also provided training as an instructor at the annual South Bay Fire Agency Strike Team Leader course; and

**WHEREAS,** as the Fire Marshal from June 16, 2003, Chief Carter was a strong advocate of the Torrance Business Community against fraudulent fire equipment service companies. Under his leadership, the Fire Prevention Division was recognized for establishing the most comprehensive verification, licensing, and prosecution programs of any local agency level in the State. He served as President of the LA Fire Marshals Association providing legislative, regulatory, and current issues supporting fire agencies throughout LA County. Chief Carter was an active member and President of the South Bay Fire Investigation Team which works with both law enforcement and fire agencies countywide. He was responsible for organizing the annual Fireworks Enforcement Task Force enhancing the working relationships of fire investigators throughout the South Bay; and

**WHEREAS,** as Fire Marshal, Ken provided oversight to the City's Hazardous Materials Division. He functioned as a member of the ExxonMobil Citizen Advisory Panel, and helped transition the City of Torrance from the "Consent Decree" to a "Memorandum of Understanding" regarding safety aspects and intra-departmental working relationships with the ExxonMobil Refinery. Chief Carter lobbied for the Torrance Fire Department to have regulatory oversight of the Above Ground Tank regulatory program from the LA County Fire Department Hazardous Materials Division. He acted in the best interest of public safety representing the City during all soil remediation and development issues.

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

## ***KENDELL C. CARTER***

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

**INTRODUCED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 27th day of September 2011.

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Mayor Frank Scotto

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
JOHN L. FELLOWS III, City Attorney

ATTEST:

by \_\_\_\_\_  
Patrick Q. Sullivan  
Assistant City Attorney

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Sue Herbers, CMC  
City Clerk