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BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF FRESNO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF RECOGNIZING AND EXPRESSING)
APPRECIATION FOR PAUL KALINIAN)

RESOLUTION NO. 17-123

WHEREAS, Paul Kalinian was born on February 14, 1932 in Beirut, Lebanon and he spent his youth in Damascus, Syria. At the age of 14, he began learning photography at the Photo Gulbenk Studio in Damascus. Mr. Kalinian moved to Canada in 1964 and then to the United States to pursue a more promising future. He opened his second place of business, Paul's Photography Studio in Fresno, California in 1972; and

WHEREAS, Paul Kalinian captured a variety of characteristic portraits of William Saroyan, one of which that was selected by the USA and USSR Postal Services for their Commemorative Postal Stamps. Later on Mr. Kalinian and his daughter Dr. Susie Kalinian, made a documentary film on the life and works of internationally renowned Armenian-American writer, playwright, humanitarian and Pulitzer Prize and Oscar winner, William Saroyan, entitled "William Saroyan: The Man, The Writer." The film is one hour long, and narrated by William Saroyan and Mike Connors; and

WHEREAS, the film is a labor of love and is inspired by Mr. Kalinian's admiration for William Saroyan as one of the greatest writers of our time. The purpose of the film is to preserve and present Saroyan's works, his dual cultural heritage, his message to the world and to create the spirit of brotherhood and understanding among all nations; and

WHEREAS, the film has won 6 International Film Festival Awards, including a Gold Award for best documentary film. Armenian and non-Armenian audiences in over 60 cities and 19 countries around the world have viewed the film since 1991. All proceeds are donated to the sponsoring organizations for their fundraising purposes; and

WHEREAS, the film is also a unique tribute to Fresno, California and portrays Saroyan's childhood memories of Fresno, how he decided to become a writer, his 60 year writing career, his international fame, character, philosophy and the undying love and passion he felt toward the country where he was born, America and the country of his forefather's, Armenia; and

WHEREAS, Paul Kalinian has contributed many selfless years of volunteer service to the community and has represented Fresno through his artistry by making and presenting this award winning documentary film all over the world for the past 26 years.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fresno County Board of Supervisors hereby recognizes and expresses appreciation for Paul Kalinian, and his philanthropic and educational contributions to the community and to the country through the art of film and photography.

THE FOREGOING was passed and adopted by the following vote of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno this 28TH day of February, 2016, to-wit:

AYES: Supervisors Pacheco, Borgeas, Magsig, Mendes, Quintero
NOES: None
ABSENT: None



CHAIRMAN, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:
BERNICE E. SEIDEL
Clerk, Board of Supervisors

By Susan Bishop
Deputy