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2
3 **BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

COUNTY OF FRESNO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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

RESOLUTION NO. 17-123

5 **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
6 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,
7 California in 1972; and

8 **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.
9 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
10 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

11 **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
12 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

13 **WHEREAS**, the film has won 6 International Film Festival Awards, including a Gold Award for
14 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
15 their fundraising purposes; and

16 **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
17 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

18 **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
19 documentary film all over the world for the past 26 years.

20 **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
21 contributions to the community and to the country through the art of film and photography.

22 **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:

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

26 
CHAIRMAN, Board of Supervisors

27 ATTEST:
BERNICE E. SEIDEL
28 Clerk, Board of Supervisors

By Susan Bishop
Deputy