

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

NOVEMBER 9, 2010

Fire Chief P. Michael Freeman has served the people of Los Angeles County for over 21 years. As the County’s second-longest serving Fire Chief in its 87-year history, he has respectfully built upon our Fire Department’s honored traditions of firefighting and lifesaving excellence. He has served with dedication, vision and distinction.

Under Chief Freeman’s leadership, the Fire Department has grown to include eight new cities and 24 new fire stations. He instituted many new specialized response programs, including its now internationally-renowned Urban Search and Rescue, Swiftwater Rescue, and Canine Search programs. He has served as commander in chief during numerous major disasters within the County, including fires, floods, and earthquakes. He preserved emergency services across the County, when he led the Proposition E Special Tax measure to prevent the closure of fire stations, which voters overwhelmingly approved. He upheld the Department’s reputation as the nation’s leader in the use of air attack for wildland firefighting operations by introducing its Contract Aircraft Program and leasing Super Scooper aircraft to bring increased water-dropping capability during the peak brush fire season. He helped develop and championed the first local government agency purchase of the 1,000-gallon capacity Sikorsky Firehawk helicopter, a firefighting version of the U.S. Army Blackhawk.

It is fitting and appropriate that we express our gratitude and recognize Chief Freeman’s service in a lasting way by dedicating the Command and Control building in his honor, which is situated in the heart of County Fire’s headquarters.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors dedicate the Command and Control building in honor of Fire Chief P. Michael Freeman, with profound admiration and appreciation for his devoted public service to the County of Los Angeles.

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RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

MOLINA _____