

RESOLUTION

TO CITY CLERK FOR PLACEMENT ON NEXT
REGULAR COUNCIL AGENDA TO BE POSTED

File

JUSTICE FOR MONSEÑOR OSCAR ROMERO AND THE SALVADORAN PEOPLE

MAR 24 2009

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal government body or agency must first have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the figure of the late Archbishop of San Salvador Monseñor Oscar A. Romero, as the ultimate pastor of the Salvadoran people, represents the moral voice against the injustices and human rights violations that led Salvadorans to fled their country and seek refuge in the United States, thus establishing this community in The City of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, the Salvadoran people, including the Salvadoran community in Los Angeles, embrace the memory of Archbishop Oscar A. Romero as a matter of national identity; and

WHEREAS, each year Salvadorans across the world commemorate March 24 as "The Day of Remembrance of Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador"; and

WHEREAS, Monseñor Oscar A. Romero's advocacy for the poor and the persecuted made him the "Voice of the Voiceless, and despite the death threats against his life in the midst of a civil war, Archbishop Romero continued his campaign for human rights; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 1980, a group of assassins entered a small chapel in San Salvador as the Archbishop celebrated mass, and fired a single bullet into his heart, killing him; and

WHEREAS, in September of 2004, Judge Oliver Wanger of the Federal District Court in Fresno declared a former Captain of the Salvadoran Army living in the United States responsible for his role in the crime against Monseñor Oscar A. Romero; and

WHEREAS, Federal Judge Wanger determined that the murder constitutes a "crime against humanity" because it was part of a widespread and systematic attack against a civilian population and concluded that what happened to Archbishop Romero was the "antithesis of due process"; and

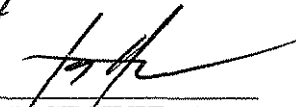
WHEREAS, in 1993, a United Nations Truth Commission on El Salvador found that there was "full evidence" of who participated in the crime and named those involved in the assassination of Monseñor Oscar A. Romero; and


WHEREAS, despite the existing evidence, the Salvadoran judicial system has yet to identify and bring to justice the material and intellectual authors in the assassination of Archbishop Romero.


NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of the Resolution the City of Los Angeles hereby declares March 24, 2009 as "The Day of Remembrance of Archbishop Oscar A. Romero of El Salvador" and calls upon the newly elected president, the Legislative Assembly and the Supreme Court of El Salvador to finally bring to justice those responsible for the assassination of the Archbishop of San Salvador, Monseñor Oscar A. Romero on March 24, 1980.

09-0002-S44

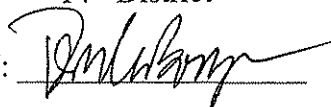
PRESENTED BY:


JOSE HUIZAR
Councilmember
14th District


ED REYES
Councilmember
1st District


ERIC GARCETTI
Councilmember
13th District

SECONDED BY:



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ORIGINAL