



**Resolution
of
The Board of Supervisors of Ventura County
Honoring
Chief Probation Officer Mark Varela
For 34 Years of Public Service to the Ventura County Probation Agency**

Whereas, Chief Mark Varela has proudly served as the ninth Chief Probation Officer in the Agency's 113-year history, and served the citizens of this county for 34 years; and

Whereas, Chief Varela rose to the challenge of leading the Agency through significant criminal and juvenile justice reforms, most notably Assembly Bill 109: Public Safety Realignment and Senate Bill 823: Juvenile Justice Realignment; and

Whereas, Chief Varela has distinguished himself in every position held through his commitment to public service, tireless work ethic, and desire to mentor and improve those around him; and

Whereas, Chief Varela is recognized for his part in the construction oversight and transition to the county's Juvenile Justice Center; and

Whereas, Chief Varela made it a priority to institute evidence-based programs to support Probation Agency clients, including the establishment of innovative rehabilitative programs for youth residents assigned to the County's Juvenile Facilities, and, the development and implementation of three community evening reporting centers for youth and two reporting and resource centers for adults; and

Whereas, Chief Varela maintained solid partnerships with local service and community treatment providers; and

Whereas, Chief Varela has made it a priority of his time as Chief to improve the level of training and preparedness of all Probation Agency staff, to improve equipment, technology, and support all employees, and to promote self-care and work life balance for all staff; and

Whereas, Chief Varela believes deeply in service to his profession and to the community he serves and as an extension of this belief, he has served as the President of the Chief Probation Officers of California, on the board of the Board of State and Community Corrections, on the board of the Ventura County Management Council, on the board of the Ventura Policy Community Foundation, and on the Board of Directors for the United Way of Ventura County; and

Whereas, Chief Varela's commitment to service has not gone unnoticed and he has been recognized with El Coneilio's Latino Leadership Award, "The Courageous Leadership Award" from the W. Haywood Burns Institute for his work and advocacy in reducing racial and ethnic disparities in our local juvenile justice system, and named Public Servant of the Year by the Camarillo Chamber of Commerce; and

Whereas, Chief Varela will undoubtedly continue his sincere commitment to service of his community and will strive to better the lives of those in need;

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the Ventura County Board of Supervisors takes great pleasure in honoring Chief Mark Varela and expresses their gratitude and appreciation for his 34 years of dedication to public services, and wishes Chief Varela happiness, and good health in the years ahead.

Presented on this 24th day of January 2023

Jeff Gorrell, Supervisor 2nd District

Kelly Long, Supervisor 3rd District

Chair of the Board of Supervisors
Matt LaVergne, Supervisor 1st District

Janice S. Parvin Supervisor 4th District

Vianzy Lopez, Supervisor 5th District