

MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Teri Ivaldi, Senior Administrative Aide

DATE: August 04, 2015

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – Adopt a resolution in support of The Placer County Superior Court’s application to the “Court Facilities Advisory Committee” of the Judicial Council of California to name the Courthouse Building at the Santucci Justice Center, in Roseville, California, in Placer County — the “Judge Howard G. Gibson Courthouse.”

ACTION REQUESTED

Adopt a resolution in support of The Placer County Superior Court’s application to the “Court Facilities Advisory Committee” of the Judicial Council of California to name the Courthouse Building at the Santucci Justice Center, in Roseville, California, in Placer County — the “Judge Howard G. Gibson Courthouse.”

BACKGROUND

The Judges of the Placer County Superior Court Bench have voted unanimously to submit an application to the “Court Facilities Advisory Committee” of the Judicial Council of California to name the Courthouse building, at the Santucci Justice Center, after the late Judge Howard G. Gibson.

Judge Gibson served in the United States Army for over four years in the campaigns in North Africa, Italy, France and Germany and after the war, he continued his college education, married Marnell Eich, and went on to the University of California, Hastings School of Law. Upon completion of law school, he returned to Roseville to open his law practice in 1953. In 1978, he received a presidential appointment from President Jimmy Carter to the National Highway Safety Advisory Committee.

In 1981, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. appointed him to the Placer County Superior Court, Howard Gibson became the first Roseville resident in the 130 year history of Placer County to be named to the Superior Court bench. Howard enjoyed his years on the Superior Court bench, providing valuable experience to the bench and creating a professional camaraderie and friendship with his fellow Judges.

Howard retired from the Superior Court bench at the end of 1983, ready after his years of service for a quiet retirement. With friends wanting to acknowledge and celebrate his 25 years on the bench and his accomplishments, he reluctantly agreed to a retirement celebration, but only on the condition that the event be a fundraiser for the restoration of the Placer County Historic Courthouse. After retiring, Howard continued to practice law part-time and enjoyed spending time with his many friends and family in Roseville.

Placer County Board of Supervisors stated it best with a simple plaque on his retirement, “The Honorable Howard G. Gibson, a matchless Judge and a great man”.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact.

Before the Board of Supervisors County of Placer, State of California

IN THE MATTER OF A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF Resolution No: _____
THE PLACER COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT'S APPLICATION TO THE
"COURT FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE" OF THE JUDICIAL
COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA TO NAME THE COURTHOUSE BUILDING AT
THE SANTUCCI JUSTICE CENTER, IN ROSEVILLE, CALIFORNIA, IN
PLACER COUNTY — THE "JUDGE HOWARD G. GIBSON COURTHOUSE."

The following RESOLUTION was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the
County of Placer at a regular meeting held, _____ by the following vote on roll
call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Kirk Uhler 2015 Chairman,
Board of Supervisors

Attest:
Clerk of said Board

WHEREAS, the Judges of the Placer County Superior Court Bench have voted unanimously to submit an application to the "Court Facilities Advisory Committee" of the Judicial Council of California to name the Courthouse building, at the Santucci Justice Center, after the late Judge Howard G. Gibson; and

WHEREAS, Howard Gibson served the State of California and the County of Placer as a Roseville Justice Court Judge and then as a Placer County Superior Court Judge from the late 1950's to the early 1980's; and

WHEREAS, as a lifelong resident of Roseville, Howard Gibson was born February 5, 1921 at the County Hospital in Auburn, California, graduated from Roseville High School in 1939 and began college until his education was interrupted when he was drafted into the United States Army in 1942; and

WHEREAS, Howard served in the United States Army for over four years in the campaigns in North Africa, Italy, France and Germany and after the war, he continued his college education, married

Marnell Eich, and went on to the University of California, Hastings School of Law. Upon completion of law school, he returned to Roseville to open his law practice in 1953; and

WHEREAS, Howard reluctantly ran for the Roseville Justice Court judge in 1958 and upon winning the election, set about restoring confidence and credibility to the court; and

WHEREAS, Howard made sure that he was always accessible to his constituents listing his home address and phone number in the Roseville telephone directory throughout his judicial career; and

WHEREAS, as a Justice Court Judge, he frequently left his judicial robes in chambers and appeared in court at the counsel table rather than the Judge's bench, in order to make people feel more comfortable in court, treating everyone who appeared in his court with respect, kindness, and compassion; and

WHEREAS, to the young lawyers in his court Howard was affectionately known as "The Dean of the Roseville School of Law." With a keen sense of fairness, sharp intellect and gentle sense of humor, he enhanced many new lawyers' continuing legal education--always making every effort to help counsel reach a just and reasonable resolution; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, Howard received a presidential appointment from President Jimmy Carter to the National Highway Safety Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, in 1981, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. appointed him to the Placer County Superior Court, Howard Gibson became the first Roseville resident in the 130 year history of Placer County to be named to the Superior Court bench. Howard enjoyed his years on the Superior Court bench, providing valuable experience to the bench and creating a professional camaraderie and friendship with his fellow Judges; and

WHEREAS, Howard retired from the Superior Court bench at the end of 1983, ready after his years of service for a quiet retirement. With friends wanting to acknowledge and celebrate his 25 years on the bench and his accomplishments, he reluctantly agreed to a retirement celebration, but only on the condition that the event be a fundraiser for the restoration of the Placer County Historic Courthouse. After retiring, Howard continued to practice law part-time and enjoyed spending time with his many friends and family in Roseville; and

WHEREAS, Placer County Board of Supervisors stated it best with a simple plaque on his retirement, "The Honorable Howard G. Gibson, a matchless Judge and a great man".

NOW THEREFORE BE IT SO RESOLVED that the Placer County Board of Supervisors on behalf of the citizens of Placer County support the Placer County Superior Court's application to the "Court Facilities Advisory Committee" of the Judicial Council of California to name the Courthouse building at the Santucci Justice Center, in Roseville, California, in Placer County — the "JUDGE HOWARD G. GIBSON COURTHOUSE."

