

WHEREAS, each year the Pro Bono Project Domestic Violence Limited Scope Representation (DVLSR) Program awards an exceptional advocate who has championed for families affected by domestic violence with its Advocate Award; in 2009, the Advocate Award is being given to Gary Baum for his pro bono legal representation to victims of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, Gary Baum is a graduate of the University of Southern California Law School and is the current City Attorney of Palo Alto; he also lectures and writes on a variety of legal issues such as land use, environmental prosecution, and managing outside counsel, is a board member of Silicon Valley Campaign For Legal Services (which raises funds for legal service organizations), was recognized in 2007 as an outstanding pro bono attorney by the Santa Clara County Bar Association, and has been an avid volunteer with the Pro Bono Project since 2001, being one of the first volunteers for its Domestic Violence Limited Scope Representation Program; and

WHEREAS, Gary Baum has actively collaborated with the Pro Bono Project Silicon Valley by avidly accepting pro bono work, participating in Lawyers in the Library (a program which provides free legal consultations in the library) and still manages to find time for property cases ranging from the fraudulent sale of a motor home to a lawsuit over a tree; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, Gary Baum started as one of the first volunteers to take cases from the Pro Bono Project's Domestic Violence Limited Scope Representation Program; these cases are often complex, requiring lots of time, involving complicated matters, and sometimes resulting in trials. Although Gary works hard on his cases, his work for the Domestic Violence Limited Scope Representation Program doesn't stop there; he has also helped the Program grow and succeed through advising on the Program's processes and procedures; and

WHEREAS, Gary Baum is known for his excellence in judgment and litigation skills and has a remarkable internal drive to make a positive impact on the community; the Pro Bono Project relies on Gary for advice and strategy and he always pulls through with an optimistic, "can do" attitude.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara, State of California does hereby honor and commend

Gary Baum

for his exceptional talent and commitment to providing pro bono legal representation to victims of domestic violence.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this Twenty Ninth of September, Two Thousand Nine by unanimous vote.

Liz Kniss, President
Board of Supervisors

Donald F. Gage
Supervisor, District One

George M. Shirakawa
Supervisor, District Two

Dave Cortese
Supervisor, District Three

Ken Yeager
Supervisor, District Four