

Resolution

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING

Rita Williams

Upon her retirement from
KTVU – Channel 2

WHEREAS, Rita Williams began a distinguished career with KTVU in January 1978; and

WHEREAS, Before joining KTVU, Rita Williams graduated from Texas Tech University in 1969 with multiple journalism scholarships and began her professional career as a speechwriter for Texas Lieutenant Governor Ben Barnes and various Texas state senators; and

WHEREAS, Rita Williams then served as press secretary to Texas Congressman George Mahon, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, while earning her Master's Degree in Political Science and International Affairs from the George Washington University; and

WHEREAS, Rita Williams answered her calling to become a broadcast journalist by returning to Texas to work as a television reporter with KSAT-TV in San Antonio; and

WHEREAS, Upon being hired full time at KTVU in January 1980, Rita Williams opened KTVU's first San Francisco news bureau. Her strong work ethic and tenacity earned her the esteem of her colleagues and interview subjects who granted her frequent exclusive reports; and

WHEREAS, While with KTVU, Rita covered many landmark stories including four national conventions, the 1978 assassinations of San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk at San Francisco City Hall and the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake; and

WHEREAS, As a stellar journalist, Rita Williams garnered prestigious awards including two Emmy Awards, a George Foster Peabody Award and the Edward R. Murrow Award; and

WHEREAS, Rita Williams retains the honor of longest-tenured female street reporter in the United States and continues to be a role model to aspiring broadcast journalists everywhere.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County congratulates and commends Rita Williams for 35 years of exceptional award-winning journalism with KTVU. The Board hereby expresses its gratitude and extends sincere wishes to Rita Williams for many more years of health, success and happiness.

Dated: March 23, 2013

SUPERVISORS:

DON HORSLEY, PRESIDENT

DAVE PINE

CAROLE GROOM

WARREN SLOCUM

ADRIENNE J. TISSIER

Attest: _____
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors