

# Resolution

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

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## *Loma Mar Volunteer Fire Department*

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**WHEREAS**, on Sunday, August 16, 2020, fierce and unusual lightning strikes in Northern California sparked more than 585 wildfires, with 24 becoming major incidents, including 300 local lightning strikes in San Mateo County and Santa Cruz County; and

**WHEREAS**, the lightning strikes coincided with a week of 100-degree heat, ongoing drought conditions and no coastal fog; and

**WHEREAS**, the next day, Monday, August 17, five large fires had grown in the inaccessible hilly areas of the Santa Cruz Mountains posing increasing threat due to limited resources; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 19, the CZU Lightning Complex had quickly expanded to more than 45,000 acres, ultimately increasing to 86,509 acres including 22,755 acres in San Mateo County by September 8; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 20, much of southern San Mateo County including Pescadero, San Gregorio and La Honda, along with more than 70,000 people in Santa Cruz County, were within mandatory evacuation areas; and

**WHEREAS**, the **Loma Mar Volunteer Fire Department** was established in 1974 to protect the Town of Loma Mar and the surrounding areas under the direction of Cal Fire; and

**WHEREAS**, they are staffed by exemplary volunteers; Fire Chief Chris Conner, Firefighters Ronald Gonsalves, and Andrew Gonsalves; and

**WHEREAS**, they identified three fire locations on Butano Ridge and began control measures; and

**WHEREAS**, they successfully aided in protecting the community of Loma Mar so that no homes were destroyed.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County hereby recognizes, commends, and is grateful to the members of the **Kings Mountain Volunteer Fire Department** for their heroic effort to combat the CZU Lightning Complex of August 2020.

Dated: November 17, 2020

SUPERVISORS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
WARREN SLOCUM, PRESIDENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
DAVE PINE

\_\_\_\_\_  
CAROLE GROOM

\_\_\_\_\_  
DON HORSLEY

\_\_\_\_\_  
DAVID J. CANEPA

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors