

HEALTH COMMISSION
City and County of San Francisco
Resolution No. 01-09

**HONORING AND ACKNOWLEDGING NORMA HOTALING AND
THE ONGOING WORK OF STANDING AGAINST GLOBAL EXPLOITATION (SAGE)**

WHEREAS, Norma Hotaling moved to San Francisco and struggled with drug addiction, homelessness, and prostitution until she found a successful treatment program; and,

WHEREAS, after earning a bachelor's degree in health education graduating magna cum laude from San Francisco State University in 1992 at age 40, Ms. Hotaling found work in an outreach program that helped prostitutes; and,

WHEREAS, Ms. Hotaling co-founded the nonprofit Standing Against Global Exploitation project (SAGE), to serve as a resource, advocacy, and counseling center for sexually exploited women and men; and,

WHEREAS, Ms. Hotaling helped the San Francisco District Attorney's Office create a first-of-its-kind class for johns caught soliciting prostitutes, the First Offender Prostitution Program, which has been replicated in 40 cities, lauded in a U.S. Department of Justice study, and honored with the Innovations in American Government Award given jointly by the Ford Foundation, the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government, and the Council for Excellence in Government; and,

WHEREAS, the SAGE peer education program was celebrated with the Peter F. Drucker Foundation Award for Nonprofit Innovation, and Oprah Winfrey chose Ms. Hotaling as an outstanding advocate worthy of her "Oprah's Angel, Use Your Life" Award, bringing national attention to SAGE; and,

WHEREAS, as a board member of the international Coalition Against Trafficking in Women, Ms. Hotaling used her personal experience as a homeless prostitute in San Francisco as a way to educate others about the harms of the sex trade, and her work led to a 2004 California law that allows prosecutors to charge pimps and johns with child abuse if they prostitute a minor; and,

WHEREAS, Ms. Hotaling died at the age of 57 in her San Francisco home on December 16, 2008 after a short battle with pancreatic cancer; and,

WHEREAS, although she was struggling with her illness, she led a successful opposition to Proposition K on the November 4, 2008 ballot, which would have decriminalized prostitution in San Francisco; and,

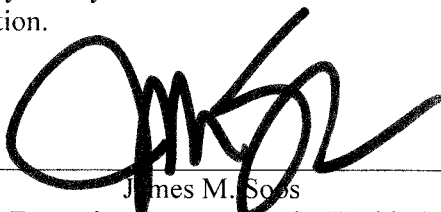
WHEREAS, the loss of Norma Hotaling will be felt throughout the San Francisco community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Health Commission acknowledges and honors Norma Hotaling for her commitment and dedication to the physical, mental, and spiritual health of people without a voice; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Health Commission conveys its heartfelt condolences to the family of Norma Hotaling; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Francisco health commission acknowledges and honors the ongoing work of Standing Against Global Exploitation (SAGE), which Norma Hotaling co-founded in 1992.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting of January 6, 2009 adopted the foregoing resolution.



James M. Soos

Acting Executive Secretary to the Health Commission