FROM THE OFFICE OF

COUNCILMEMBER PAUL CAPRIOGLIO

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, *mediation is a dispute Resolution process in which a neutral third person facilitates communication between disputants to help them reach a mutually acceptable agreement and offers many potential benefits to litigants, the courts, and the public, including increasing the interested parties' satisfaction with the litigation process and the courts and voluntary compliance with the terms of resolution, while reducing pretrial motions and trials, the time from filing of an action to disposition, future disputes between the parties, recidivism, litigant's costs, and court workloads; and*

Whereas, *during the past 31 years, California community dispute resolution organizations have used mediation to resolve countless neighborhood disputes before formal legal proceedings were initiated and have been instrumental in the development and operation of mediation programs to resolve legal proceedings filed with the courts; and*

Whereas, *during the past 26 years California courts have increasingly encouraged, offered, and provided mediation to assist litigants in resolving civil, family, and juvenile actions and proceedings. The availability and success of court mediation programs are largely attributable to the efforts of judicial officers, court staff, and the court's justice partners, including local government agencies, state and local bar associations; and*

Whereas, *Fresno County Superior Court, in partnership with local community mediation programs including, Better Business Bureau of the San Joaquin Valley, Fresno Pacific University Center for Peacemaking, San Joaquin College of Law Mediation Center, California State University, Fresno Peer Mediation Program, and local individual mediators, many of whom contribute significant time and resources toward conducting mediations are integral components in service, education and outreach; and*

Whereas, *widespread public awareness of the nature, availability and benefits of mediation and court mediation programs is essential in ensuring the use of these programs and access to justice; and the Governor and other California state and local officials and agencies traditionally recognize the third week of March as* ***MEDIATION WEEK****.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Paul Caprioglio, Councilmember for District 4 and on behalf of the Council of the City of Fresno, California, hereby proclaim the week of March 16 through 20, 2009, as

"MEDIATION WEEK"

in the City of Fresno, and commend the efforts of all of those who make mediation and mediation programs available to citizens of Fresno, and encourage the courts to recognize those individuals and publicize their mediation programs during ***MEDIATION WEEK****.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the City of Fresno this 17th day of March, 2009.

Paul Caprioglio, Councilmember, District 4