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Andrea Lain-Ruffino Ret. Fire Fighter Rex Williamson LASD Ret. Sgt. Rock Pattullo

RECEIVEN GROVE OF GARDEN GROVE 'chty clerky's office

City of Garden Grove CITY OF CITY (Garden Grove, CA 92840

Dear Mayor Dalton,

Imagine that there is a disease that affects more people than AIDS, Cerebral Palsy, Multiple Sclerosis, Sickle Cell Anemia, and Cystic Fibrosis COMBINED!

Lupus is that disease, amazingly many people have never heard of it. Over 90% of the victims of this devastating disease are women. The majority of these women are in their childbearing years—with people of African American, Asian and Hispanic decent 6 times more likely to be diagnosed.

Why is this important for you to know? According to the CDC, researchers believe that over 5 million people in the United States are afflicted with lupus. They estimate that more than 100,000 new cases develop each year. Essentially every 30 minutes someone is diagnosed with lupus. There is no cure and there are few treatments specific to lupus. Just think how this disease impacts the quality of life for the sufferers' families, especially the children that depend on their mothers/parents. Lupus International is a full service organization committed to supporting those afflicted with this disease until we find a cure.

On behalf of those affected by lupus we respectfully request a proclamation and/or letter of support celebrating our 26th Anniversary of providing patient services and funding research. This would be a perfect way to end our celebration of this great milestone. In doing so you will not only be helping our cause, but you are letting people who are afflicted with this devastating disease, know they are not alone and have your support. It is hard enough knowing you have a life threatening disease but to feel alone is even more challenging.

Enclosed is a draft proclamation/resolution for your review. If you have any questions and/or would like to discuss how you can further help our cause please do not hesitate to contact me at our lupus support center-949/833-2121.

Thank you in advance for your kind consideration of this request. Your support will give hope to millions.

Sincerely,

Christina M. Kelly **Executive Director**

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Approved for Agenda Listing

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Andrea Lain-Ruffino Ret. Fire Fighter Rex Williamson LASD Ret. Sgt. Rock Pattullo Whereas, Systematic Lupus Erythematosus, commonly called lupus, is a chronic, complex, often life-threatening autoimmune disease; and

Whereas, lupus strikes women in the prime, ages 16-45, affecting all aspects of their lives—family, education, career, education; and

Whereas, Lupus International offers the leading pediatric services for children with lupus; and

Whereas, more people have lupus than AIDS, Cerebral Palsy, Sickle Cell Anemia, and Cystic Fibrosis combined; and

Whereas, early diagnosis and proper treatment is critical to the improvement of the quality of life and survival rate of lupus sufferers; and

Whereas, lupus impacts more than just the life of a patient it affects their family, friends, co-workers, employers, and the community; and

Whereas, researchers estimate over 5 million people have been diagnosed with lupus or related diseases in the U.S., and approximately 100,000 more are diagnosed every year; and

Whereas, increased public awareness, education, and research are key to winning the battle against lupus; and

"Whereas, Lupus International founded in 1983 as a 501 ©3 nonprofit organization. The primary purpose of the foundation is to alleviate suffering for lupus patients through patient services, early detection of undiagnosed cases through awareness promotion and eradicate lupus by supporting lupus research,."

Now, Therefore, I, , of , on behalf of all its citizens, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2009, as "Lupus Awareness Month" And further, wishes to Lupus International every success in the future.