

**Proclamation**

**Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day 2012**

WHEREAS, The Vietnam War, also known as the Second Indochina War, was fought in Vietnam from 1959-1975, involving the North Vietnamese and National Liberation Front (NLF) in conflict with United States forces and the South Vietnamese army; and

WHEREAS, The United States became involved in Vietnam because American policymakers believed that if the entire country fell under a communist government, communism would spread throughout Southeast Asia; and

WHEREAS, In 1964, the United States Congress overwhelmingly passed the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, which effectively handed over war-making powers to President Johnson until such time as "peace and security" had returned to Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, By the end of its first year in 1965, there were 80,000 U.S. troops in Vietnam, peaking to about 543,000 troops by 1969; and

WHEREAS, On January, 27, 1973, the Treaty of Paris was signed declaring the release of all American prisoners of war from North Vietnam and the withdrawal of all U.S. forces from South Vietnam, resulting in the last U.S. troops leaving Vietnam on March 29, 1973; and

WHEREAS, In total, more than 58,000 Americans lost their lives in Vietnam, including 41 from Garden Grove, and more than 300,000 U.S. soldiers were wounded; and

WHEREAS, In 2009, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed AB 717 into law, declaring March 30 as "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day," in commemoration of the U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam in 1973.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Garden Grove City Council does hereby proclaim March 30, 2012, as "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" in Garden Grove.

**March 13, 2012**

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William J. Dalton, *Mayor*

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Dina Nguyen, *Mayor Pro Tem*

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Steven R. Jones, *Council Member*

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Bruce A. Broadwater, *Council Member*

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Kris Beard, *Council Member*

**Recommended for Approval**

  
**Matthew Fertal**  
City Manager