

CLERK'S OFFICE
APPROVED

Date: 6-14-11

Submitted by: ASSEMBLY MEMBERS GRAY-JACKSON, DRUMMOND,
TRAINI, BIRCH, FLYNN, HALL, HONEMAN, JOHNSTON, OSSIANDER, STARR,
TROMBLEY AND MAYOR SULLIVAN
Prepared by: Office of Assembly Counsel
For reading: June 14, 2011

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AR NO. 2011-161

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY RECOGNIZING AND HONORING SHARON LEON FOR HER RELENTLESS DEDICATION TO YOUTH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN THE ANCHORAGE YOUTH COURT.

WHEREAS, founded in 1989, Anchorage Youth Court is a juvenile justice system to stop illegal behavior through positive peer pressure in a formal court setting, operated by youth in grades 7 through 12, for youth, with adult advisors; and

WHEREAS, the youth court opportunity gives youth offenders personal accountability; offers youth attorneys good training and promotes positive intervention; and provides the community with an effective criminal justice response to juvenile offenders; and

WHEREAS, Anchorage Youth Court has expanded to become a charter member of the United Youth Courts of Alaska; in 1999, received representatives of 27 states as Anchorage host for the first National Youth Court Conference; co-sponsored two Alaska State youth court conferences held in Anchorage; trains student volunteers who, in turn, have provided an average of 7,000 hours each year since inception; engages adult advisors; holds court weekly; files for grant money; initiates fundraising; and maintains operational relationships with community, school, and court system stakeholders, promoting juvenile justice education and accountability; and

WHEREAS, soon after Anchorage Youth Court accepted its first case in 1989, Sharon Leon signed on as youth court coordinator, a job that has grown with program demands to full-time executive director; and

WHEREAS, Sharon Leon is a graduate of Anchorage High School (now called "West High"), and returned to Anchorage after graduating from Western Washington University with a bachelor's degree in education; and

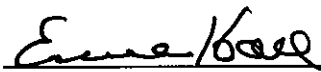
WHEREAS, for more than two decades, Sharon Leon has executed the vision, goals, and mission of Anchorage Youth Court in her board membership on United Youth Courts of Alaska; speaking engagements at youth court conferences and community forums; volunteer recruitment, training, and oversight; budget input, grant applications, fundraising; and in all the operational relationships that require support, day in and day out, to focus and maintain community engagement in this program;

NOW THEREFORE THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RECOGNIZES AND HONORS:


SHARON LEON

**FOR HER TWENTY-TWO YEAR TENURE OF RELENTLESS DEDICATION TO YOUTH AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT IN THE ANCHORAGE YOUTH COURT.**

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 14th day of June, 2011.


Vice Chair

ATTEST:


Municipal Clerk