

BRENDON D. WOODS

WHEREAS, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors honors Public Defender, **BRENDON D. WOODS** as the recipient of the Santa Clara County Black Lawyers Association's Gideon Award; and

WHEREAS, **BRENDON D. WOODS** began as an attorney for the Alameda County Public Defender's Office in 1996 where he has served for the past 17 years; and

WHEREAS, **BRENDON D. WOODS** represented juvenile and adult clients in Alameda County charged with crimes from misdemeanors to capital murder; and

WHEREAS, **BRENDON D. WOODS** has defended clients in numerous jury trials, including three death penalty cases resulting in the death penalty not being given; and

WHEREAS, **BRENDON D. WOODS** has been active in the community by serving several organizations including: the Judicial Evaluation Committee for the Alameda County Bar Association, the Alameda County Executive Development Program, the Judicial Council of California's Criminal Law Advisory Committee, the California Public Defender's Association, and served as a Board Member for the Charles Houston Bar Association; and

WHEREAS, **BRENDON D. WOODS** served as Law Clerk, Interviewing Attorney, Associate Public Defender, Deputy Public Defender, Assistant Public Defender and Senior Assistant Public Defender prior to his appointment as the Public Defender; and

WHEREAS, on December 17, 2012, **BRENDON D. WOODS** was appointed as Public Defender by this board, and became the first African-American Public Defender for Alameda County; and

WHEREAS, **BRENDON D. WOODS** was recognized by the East Bay Express as the "Most Courageous New Public Official" in 2013 as an advocate for indigent defendants and for making every effort to bring balance to public-policy debates. In addition, Mr. Woods initiated the Public Defender Department's Clean Slate Program; and

WHEREAS, **BRENDON D. WOODS** is a model of professionalism as an innovative and aggressive advocate for his clients; he personally trains and instructs attorneys in the most up-to-date legal developments; brings major technological development to the delivery of defender services; and effectively supports his staff and the role of the department through an era of substantial fiscal demand.

NOW THEREFORE, this Board of Supervisors, County of Alameda, State of California does hereby congratulates **BRENDON D. WOODS** as a Santa Clara County Black Lawyers Association and County of Santa Clara Gideon Award Honoree and recognizes him for his many years of dedicated service to the residents of Alameda County.

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