

1 **CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

2 **RESOLUTION NO. 2009-88**

3 **INTRODUCED BY:**

4 **Mayor Coss**

5 **Councilor Chavez**

6 **Councilor Dominguez**

7 **Councilor Wurzbarger**

8 **Councilor Bushee**

9 **Councilor Calvert**

10 **A RESOLUTION**

11 **IN SUPPORT OF ESTABLISHING A UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF PEACE AND**
12 **NONVIOLENCE AND A NEW MEXICO OFFICE OF PEACE.**

13
14 **WHEREAS**, during the course of the 20th century, more than 100,000,000 people perished
15 in wars, and now, at the dawn of the 21st century, violence seems to be an overarching theme in our
16 communities and world; and

17 **WHEREAS**, it is recognized that the cost of violence prevention is significantly less than the
18 cost of recovering from any one act of violence in a community; and

19 **WHEREAS**, promoting a culture of peace has been recognized by the United Nations
20 Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) with a resolution declaring an
21 International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Nonviolence for the Children of the World, 2001-
22 2010; and

23 **WHEREAS**, House Resolution 808 to establish a United States Department of Peace and
24 Nonviolence is currently pending before the 2009-2010 U.S. House of Representatives with 71 co-
25 sponsors in the House; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the proposed federal legislation to create a Department of Peace and
2 Nonviolence will establish a cabinet-level Department of Peace, which will be headed by a Secretary
3 of Peace who will advise the President on issues that are both domestic and international in scope,
4 augmenting our current problem-solving options, providing practical, nonviolent solutions to the
5 problems of domestic and international conflict; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Peace will consist of seven (7) offices
7 including an Office of Peace Education and Training; an Office of International Peace Activities; an
8 Office of Technology for Peace; an Office of Arms Control and Disarmament; an Office of Peaceful
9 Coexistence and Nonviolent Conflict Resolution; an Office of Human Rights and Economic Rights;
10 and an Office of Domestic Peace Activities (whose responsibilities are: (1) to develop policies that
11 increase awareness about intervention and counseling on domestic violence and conflict; (2) to
12 develop policy alternatives for the treatment of drug and alcohol abuse; (3) to develop new policies
13 and build on existing programs responsive to the prevention of crime, including the development of
14 community policing strategies and peaceful settlement skills among police and other public safety
15 officers; and (4) to develop community-based strategies for celebrating diversity and promoting
16 tolerance); and

17 **WHEREAS**, the proposed federal legislation to create a United States Department of Peace
18 and Nonviolence will benefit the City of Santa Fe by holding peace as an organizing principle at all
19 levels of our society, which will change the tone of our society to greater respect and less violence;
20 and

21 **WHEREAS**, the proposed federal legislation to create a United States Department of Peace
22 and Nonviolence will benefit the City of Santa Fe by supporting existing programs and developing
23 new programs from within the community to address and reduce the number and frequency of
24 incidents related to domestic violence, child and spousal abuse, school violence, gang violence, gun
25 violence, violence resulting from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, hate crimes and police-community

1 relations which will assist members of our police department in experiencing fewer dangerous
2 encounters, especially while making routine runs, and strengthen our community; and

3 **WHEREAS**, some eighty national and international human rights, peace and environmental
4 organizations and noted individuals, such as the late Walter Cronkite, have endorsed the legislation to
5 establish a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence, as well as 41 local governing bodies,
6 including Silver City, New Mexico; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Grant County, New Mexico; Las
7 Cruces, New Mexico; Chicago, Illinois; Cleveland, Ohio; Corvallis, Oregon; Lansing, Miami; Los
8 Angeles, California; Santa Cruz, California; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Newark, New Jersey and
9 Providence, Rhode Island; and

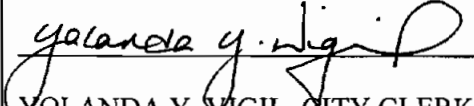
10 **WHEREAS**, the New Mexico Office of Peace legislation was inspired by, and will
11 collaborate with, the proposed United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence establishing an
12 office at the state level dedicated to peacemaking, social justice and human rights; training that will
13 enable the prevention, management and resolution of conflict without violence, including the
14 practice of Restorative Justice which is beginning to make the Santa Fe Public Schools safer, a
15 facilitated process that provides the space and time for everyone involved in a conflict to speak and
16 listen sincerely and respectfully, to tell their stories and take responsibility for any harm caused
17 seeking ways to make things right as much as possible acting to restore relationships and community;
18 and the study and implementation of appropriate educational curricula at all levels and of conditions
19 that are conducive to a culture of peace; and

20 **WHEREAS**, many statewide organizations have endorsed the New Mexico Office of Peace
21 legislation, such as the New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence, New Mexico Conference
22 of Churches, New Mexico Mediation Association, New Mexico Catholic Conference of Bishops,
23 NAACP New Mexico Conference of Branches, NAACP Santa Fe Branch, Somos Un Pueblo Unido,
24 Tewa Women United, Veterans for Peace (Santa Fe, Taos, Albuquerque), Albuquerque Center for
25 Peace and Justice and many peace and justice organizations throughout New Mexico; and

1 ATTEST:

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4 YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

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6 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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9 FRANK D. KATZ, CITY ATTORNEY

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