1	CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO
2	RESOLUTION NO. 2009-15
3	INTRODUCED BY:
4	Councilor Bushee
5	Mayor Coss
6	Councilor Trujillo
	Councilor Romero
7	Councilor Dominguez
8	Councilor Calvert
9	Councilor Wurzburger
10	A RESOLUTION
11	REQUESTING THAT UPRIGHT HEADSTONES BE INSTALLED IN THE SANTA FE
12	NATIONAL CEMETERY.
13	
14	WHEREAS, in 1868, the Santa Fe National Cemetery was established by the federal
15	government for the reinterment of Union soldiers who died during the brief military activity in
16	the Santa Fe area; and
17	WHEREAS, the Santa Fe National Cemetery was designated a national cemetery in
18	April 1875; and
19	WHEREAS, the service of veterans has been vital to the history of the nation, and the
20	sacrifices made by veterans and their families should not be forgotten; and
21	WHEREAS, the Santa Fe National Cemetery consists of 78.6 acres with over 28,000
22	graves most of which are marked by upright headstones; and
23	WHEREAS, Congress adopted an amendment to the Veterans Benefits Act (1999) that
24	stated " the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may provide for flat grave markers at the Santa Fe
25	National Cemetery, New Mexico"; and
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1	WHEREAS, flat grave markers have been installed at the Santa Fe National Cemetery;
2	and
3	WHEREAS, although the use of flat markers does not diminish the cemetery's stature as
4	a national shrine and flat markers have been accepted by veterans, their families and the public at
5	other national cemeteries, both large and small located around the nation, veterans and their
6	families in Santa Fe have requested that only upright headstones be installed at the Santa Fe
7	National Cemetery.
8	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
9	CITY OF SANTA FE that on behalf of veterans and their families, the City of Santa Fe respectfully
10	requests that the necessary steps be taken so that upright headstones are installed in the Santa Fe
11	National Cemetery in the future and those headstones previously installed flat are installed upright.
12	AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff is directed to forward this resolution to New
13	Mexico's Congressional Delegation, the U.S. Department of Veteran's Affairs and the New Mexico
14	Department of Veterans Services.
15	PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 28 th day of January, 2009.
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18	DavidGos
19	DAVID COSS, MAYOR
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21	ATTEST:
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24 (VOLANDA Y.VIGIL, CITY CLERK
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1	APPROVED AS TO FORM:
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4	FRANK D. KATZ, CITY ATTORNEY
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5	Jp/ca/jpmb/2009 res/national cemetery headstones
6 7 8 9 0 1 1 2 3	Jp/ca/jpmb/2009_res/national cemetery headstones