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WHEREAS, Ronald Fagin is well known for his pioneering work in database theory, finite model theory, and reasoning about knowledge, otherwise known as Fagin's Theorem. After receiving his Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of California Berkeley in 1973, he spent two years at the Thomas J. Watson Research Center, and then transferred to what is now the IBM Almaden Research Center in San Jose, California; and

WHEREAS, Fagin’s Theorem, which he proved in his Ph.D. thesis, states that existential second-order logic coincides with the complexity class NP in the sense that a decision problem can be expressed in existential second-order logic if and only if it can be solved by a nondeterministic Turing machine in polynomial time. Another famous result that he proved is that first-order logic has a zero-one law, a tool for proving inexpressibility results for database query languages; and

WHEREAS, in addition to receiving the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers 2012 W. Wallace McDowell Award, popularly referred to as the information technology Nobel Prize, Ronald has also won the 2011 IEEE Technical Achievement Award, eight IBM Outstanding Innovation Awards, and an honorary doctorate from the University of Paris; and

WHEREAS, Ronald serves as program chair on several committees throughout Santa Clara County and enjoys spending time with his family, including his five grandchildren;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara does hereby commend

RONALD FAGIN

as the recipient of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers 2012 W. Wallace McDowell Award.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, this Fifth Day of June Two Thousand and Twelve by unanimous vote.

Mike Wasserman
Supervisor, District One

George Shirakawa, President
Board of Supervisors

Dave Cortese
Supervisor, District Three

Ken Yeager
Supervisor, District Four

Liz Kniss
Supervisor, District Five

Approved as to Form and Legality

County Counsel

Date 6 - 4 - 12

Adopted

Presented  Ratified

BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
Lynn Reganet, Interim Clerk of the Board

By: Ollie Dun

Date: JUN 05 2012