

Adjournment May 21, 2012

Sergeant John A Aguilar

Colleagues, I adjourn today's meeting in the memory of Santa Ana Police **Sergeant John Alfred Aguilar**.

Though Sergeant Aguilar passed away 14 years ago on June 30, 1998, tomorrow his name is being added to the Orange County Police Officer's Memorial in recognition of the heroes who have given their lives in the line of duty.

John grew up in Santa Ana and dedicated himself to ridding his neighborhood of drugs and helping his community wherever he could. John was a 24 year resident of the City of Orange where he commenced his law enforcement career in 1978 with the Orange Police Department and then with the Department of Justice, Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement where he was assigned to the Clandestine Lab Unit.

In 1987, John began working with the Santa Ana Police Department and was assigned to a specialized team focusing on areas known for narcotic distribution. In 1993, he joined the Special Narcotics Unit, Street Team. He served as the Sergeant of the Orange County Regional

Narcotics Suppression Program and then Sergeant of the Santa Ana Police Department Special Investigation Division Major Narcotic Unit. Through the course of his work, he participated in the seizure of multiple clandestine labs.

In 1997 John was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia. It was later determined that repeated exposure to Benzene (a carcinogenic chemical commonly used to produce methamphetamines) throughout the course of his law enforcement career led to the Leukemia.

Well-liked by both the public and his fellow officers due to his exemplary police record and personality, he was often described as being a “cop’s cop”.

Sergeant Aguilar died on June 30, 1998, leaving behind his wife Terri and four daughters: Michelle, Anna and Marie and Renee Ramirez, who is our Assistant Clerk-Recorder.

I ask that you keep John and his family in your thoughts and prayers.