

1                   SANTA FE COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 2009- 3

2                   INTRODUCED BY:

3                   Commissioner Vigil

4                   Commissioner Montoya

## 5                   A RESOLUTION

6           **Santa Fe County where no one drinks alcohol before the age of 21, where adults**  
7           **model low risk alcohol use, and no one drinks and drives.**

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9           **WHEREAS**, the Santa Fe Underage Drinking Prevention Alliance, made up of many  
10 community organizations committed to the health and well-being of the families of Santa Fe  
11 County, is highlighting the danger of alcohol use in our County; and

12           **WHEREAS**, the citizens of the County of Santa Fe have the responsibility and right to  
13 protect their children from irresponsible alcohol distribution and marketing; and

14           **WHEREAS**, high school students in Santa Fe County in 2007 reported drinking alcohol  
15 at alarming rates, with 52% reporting that they are current drinkers and 33% reporting that they  
16 are binge drinkers, having had five or more drinks in a row in a couple of hours at least once in  
17 the past 30 days; and

18           **WHEREAS**, underage drinking, especially binge drinking, places our youth at much  
19 greater risk of alcohol-related harms such as drinking and driving, being involved in  
20 physical fights, sexual assault, teen pregnancy, suicide, and homicide; and

21           **WHEREAS**, our youth are starting to drink alcohol at very young ages, with 34% of  
22 Santa Fe County youth reporting that they had their first drink of alcohol before they were 13  
23 years old; and

24           **WHEREAS**, people who start drinking before the age of 15 are five times more likely to  
25 develop alcohol dependence than those who start drinking at age 21; and

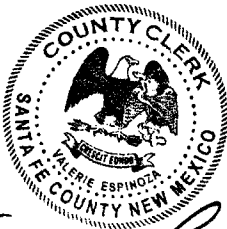
1  
2 **WHEREAS**, the adults of Santa Fe County can help reduce underage drinking and DWI  
3 by modeling low risk alcohol usage behavior for the youth of Santa Fe County; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Santa Fe County will support the education of parents regarding the  
5 dangers of underage drinking such as the 10% reduction of the brain's hippocampus (responsible  
6 for learning and memory) in underage drinkers; and

7 **WHEREAS**, in support of the parents of Santa Fe County we encourage them to  
8 proactively talk to their children regarding the dangers of alcohol; and

9 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**  
10 **COUNTY OF SANTA FE** that this year and each year forward, the County of Santa Fe will for  
11 the safety of our community, underage drinking and drinking and driving laws will be  
12 consistently and rigorously enforced to support the vision that in Santa Fe County no one  
13 drinks alcohol before the age of 21, adults model low risk alcohol use, and no one drinks  
14 and drives.

15 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 14 day of January, 2009.



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17  
18 *Michael J. O'Connell*  
CHAIRMAN



19 ATTEST:

20 *Valerie Espinoza*  
21 VALERIE ESPINOZA, SANTA FE COUNTY CLERK

22 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

23 *Steve Ross*  
24  
25 STEVE ROSS, SANTA FE COUNTY ATTORNEY

COUNTY OF SANTA FE )  
STATE OF NEW MEXICO ) ss  
I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for  
Record On The 21ST Day Of January, 2009 at 11:26:16 AM  
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1549757  
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County  
2 Deputy *Valerie Espinoza* Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office  
Valerie Espinoza  
County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM