

# 77

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
COUNTY OF ESSEX**

**RESOLUTION NO.** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PROPOSED BY: COMMISSIONER MERCADO**  
**SUBJECT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**AUTHORITY FOR RESOLUTION** N.J.S.A. 40:41A-38(a)  
**AUTHORITY FOR ACTION** C.C.E. 2-29(B)

**COMMENDATION**

**HONORING THE HONORABLE LUIS A. QUINTANA  
AS HE CELEBRATES HIS 37<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF SERVICE BIRTHDAY BASH  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2023**

WHEREAS, the Honorable Luis A. Quintana of Newark, New Jersey, will be celebrated for his 37<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Service to the City of Newark and community at-large, when friends, family and constituents gather during a Birthday Bash in his honor, which will be held on Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at Nanina's in the Park in Belleville, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Luis A. Quintana was born in Añasco, Puerto Rico, on January 29, 1960, and in 1967, at the age of seven, he moved with his family to Newark, New Jersey. Challenged by his new environment, he was neither able to speak nor understand the English language, but was determined to learn and achieve his goals; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Luis A. Quintana attended Our Lady of Good Council Grammar School, and graduated from Barringer High School in 1979. He was named "Outstanding Youth of the Year by ASPIRA, Inc., and during his high school years, he was actively involved with the Upward Bound Program and numerous other community activities. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from Seton Hall University in 1983. After his graduation, motivated by his concern that all Newark children receive a decent education regardless of race, creed or color, he became a Youth Counselor at the North Ward Center in Newark, in 1983; and

WHEREAS, in November of 1990, the Honorable Luis A. Quintana, was appointed to the Board of the Essex County Vocational Schools, and the Board of Trustees of the United Way. He is an elected Member of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials Educational Fund since 1997, and member of the Black & Latino Coalitions of Black & Hispanic Clergy's since it was created in 1993. Actively involved in his community, he became a Democratic County Committee Member in 1981 and in 1985; he became the Deputy Mayor for the City of Newark. He served as Deputy Mayor from 1986 to 1994 and in June of 1994, he was sworn in as the first Hispanic to be elected Councilman at-Large in the City of Newark; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Luis A. Quintana was elected to his first term as Newark Councilman at Large in June 1994. He officially assumed his Municipal Council seat on July 1, 1994. He was the first Hispanic to be elected to the position of Councilman at-Large in the City of Newark. The first Hispanic of Puerto Rican ethnicity to be appointed as City Council President and the First Hispanic to be elected by the City Council members to serve as interim Mayor of the City of Newark from October 31, 2013 to July 1, 2014. He was re-elected to his eighth term as Councilman at Large on May 10, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Luis A. Quintana became a Member of HELO (Hispanic Elected and Local Officials) in 1994. He also served as an Elected President of the Board from 2002 to 2003; becoming the first Hispanic of Puerto Rican ethnicity from the Northeastern part of the United States to be elected President. He is a Member of the Sister Cities International since 1994. In 1998, he was selected to be part of The New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education where he visited The Camps in Berlin, Prague, Poland, Amsterdam and Israel. He was elected to the Board of the National League of Cities in 1999, elected to the Board of Sister International in June 2000, and in 2005, he was appointed Vice Chair of the Advisory Council to the National League of Cities where he continues to serve; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Luis A. Quintana has received numerous awards such as the Mayoral Recognition (2014), Men of Valor Award, The Ambassador for Peace Award, the Honorary name of Commander of the Puerto Rico State Police (2004), The Distinguished Man of the Year Award by the Newspaper "La Tribuna (2001), and the Person of the Year Award from the Newark's Fire Fighters Union, to name a few; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Luis A. Quintana is now serving as the Vice Chairman of the State of New Jersey Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission. He was appointed to the Board by the Governor of the State of New Jersey and is celebrating 37-years of community service in the City of Newark; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Essex County Board of County Commissioners hereby commends the Honorable Luis A. Quintana for making a difference and congratulates him for his 37<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Service to the City of Newark and community at-large; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Honorable Luis A. Quintana.

*Michael J. Polunski*

Approved as to form and legality \_\_\_\_\_

Commissioner Counsel

RECORD OF VOTE (X=Vote N.V.=Abstention ABS=Absent)

Moved by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_

Second by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_

Commissioner	Yes	No	N.V.	ABS	Commissioner	Yes	No.	N.V.	ABS
COOPER					MERCADO				
GILL					POMARES, V.P.				
GRAHAM					SEBOLD				
JOHNSON									
LUCLANO					RICHARDSON, PRES.				

It is hereby certified that the foregoing Resolution was ( ) adopted ( ) defeated ( ) tabled by roll call vote at a \_\_\_\_\_ meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Essex, New Jersey held on \_\_\_\_\_

Is Publication Required ( ) Yes ( ) No

Date Published \_\_\_\_\_

Wayne L. Richardson, President