



Venice Neighborhood Council

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November 3, 2008

Councilmember Bill Rosendahl
City Hall, Room 415
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Bill,

At the October 21, 2008, Board meeting of the Venice Neighborhood Council, the Board voted unanimously to designate October 18th Jim Richards Day in Venice. Further we voted to petition you to work with the Los Angeles City Council to have October 18 declared Jim Richards Day throughout Los Angeles. Of course we will aid you to help this project along.

Why Jim Richards Day? Jim Richards was a long time resident of the Oakwood Neighborhood in Venice. He was a neighborhood activist who captained his Neighborhood Watch and was extremely active in attempting to clean his neighborhood of crime, drug dealing, and gang activity. On October 18, 2000, he was shot to death in his driveway. All information led to the assumption his assassination was in retaliation for his neighborhood work.

By creating a day of remembrance, residents of both Venice and Los Angeles could be spurred on to join people who work for the good of their communities. As Ruth Galanter said at the time, "Jim was a brave and dedicated man. The City and the community owe a debt of gratitude to him. Those who believe they can intimidate this community have sorely underestimated the good people of Oakwood."

Please Bill, let's move this idea forward.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike R. Newhouse".

Mike Newhouse
President
Venice Neighborhood Council

Cc: secretary@veniceNC.org