

Board of Supervisors County of Ventura State of California

John C. Zaragoza 5th District

FOR MEDIA RELEASE: Monday, November 16, 2009 CONTACT: John Zaragoza, Supervisor District 5 (805) 654-2613

SUPERVISOR ZARAGOZA CELEBRATES OUR TROOPS ON VETERANS DAY

Supervisor Zaragoza was honored to be the guest speaker of the El Rio Lions Club Annual Veterans Day Ceremony on November 11, 2009. The ceremony was held at the Roger Jones Community Center in El Rio and was attended by many veterans and current active duty military from the El RIO area. Supervisor Zaragoza presented Mr. Gomez of the El Rio Lions Club with a Resolution from the Board of Supervisors, recognizing the sacrifice made by our nation's veterans. Following Supervisor Zaragoza's remarks, a flower wreath was placed at the base of the flag pole as the flag was lowered to half staff in honor of the fallen members of our military. "Taps" was played by an El Rio Veteran.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, all veterans and active duty military were invited to the microphone to announce the military branch in which they served, when and where. Supervisor Zaragoza stated, "It was an honor to be invited to this moving ceremony. I was proud to see how many of the veterans in attendance have sons, daughters, or family members who are currently serving, many in the same branch as their fathers before them".

After several veterans and active military members shared their stories, Supervisor Zaragoza thanked them for their dedication, service, and the pledge to keep all Americans safe and free.

In Downtown Oxnard at Plaza Park, Supervisor Zaragoza attended the Veterans Day Memorial ceremony to pay tribute to fallen troops and honoring those still with us. Plaza Park has a historic war memorial structure dedicated to fallen soldiers from The City of Oxnard honoring

their memory. Supervisor Zaragoza stated at the end of the ceremony beside a flowered wreath at the foot of one of the three war memorial triangular structures, "We are here to honor and commemorate these fallen heroes, and those who come home with their stories of war. Today, we are reminded that if it were not for the men and woman of the armed forces we would not have the liberty we enjoy today. Thank you."

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