

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA

RESOLUTION # 25-XX

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA, RENAMING THE VALDEZ CONTAINER TERMINAL TO THE “RYAN J. SONTAG VALDEZ CONTAINER TERMINAL” IN HONOR OF HIS LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AND THE MARITIME INDUSTRY

WHEREAS, Ryan J. Sontag was born in Valdez and remained a lifelong resident and servant of the community, with deep ties to Dayville, Old Town, and New Town Valdez; and

WHEREAS, following honorable service in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War, Mr. Sontag returned to Valdez and played a vital role in the reconstruction of the City’s port infrastructure after the 1964 Good Friday Earthquake, including working alongside his father, Herman Sontag, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to construct a temporary dock critical to restoring maritime access; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sontag’s worked long hours unloading pipe during the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS) construction and his many years as a tugboat captain helped build and sustain the port infrastructure that is vital to Valdez’s economy; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sontag played a critical role in managing operations at the Valdez Container Terminal during the Exxon Valdez oil spill response—one of the most demanding times in Alaska’s maritime history—demonstrating leadership, commitment, and calm under pressure; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sontag worked for more than 30 years at the Valdez Container Terminal for North Star Terminal & Stevedore Company, earning the respect of his peers, the maritime industry, and the broader Valdez community; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his maritime work, Mr. Sontag served the City of Valdez as a member of the Valdez Transportation Commission and the Valdez City Council, further contributing to the city’s civic life and governance; and

WHEREAS, the Valdez Ports and Harbors Commission has passed a resolution recommending the renaming of the Valdez Container Terminal to the “Ryan J. Sontag Valdez Container Terminal” as a meaningful and enduring tribute to his service and legacy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA, that the Valdez Container Terminal shall hereby be officially renamed the "Ryan J. Sontag Valdez Container Terminal", in recognition of Mr. Sontag's lifelong dedication to the City, its port operations, and the maritime industry.

Section 1. The Valdez City Manager is directed to oversee the implementation of appropriate signage, recognition, and public communication regarding this renaming, and to coordinate with the Sontag family for any commemorative events or installations.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA, this _____ day of _____, 2025

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA

Dennis Fleming, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sheri L. Pierce, MMC, City Clerk