

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



JUNE LAGMAY
City Clerk

HOLLY L. WOLCOTT
Executive Officer

Office of the
CITY CLERK

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ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA
MAYOR

July 22, 2010

To All Interested Parties:

The City Council adopted the action(s), as attached, under Council file
No. 10-1231, at its meeting held July 21, 2010.


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PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION

Dr. Sammy Lee is the first American of Asian descent to win an Olympic gold medal for the United States. The diminutive diver, just 5-feet tall, had to overcome much discrimination before attaining his goals: to be an Olympic Champion and to be a Medical Doctor.


In 1942, at the age of 22, Sammy competed in the National Diving Championships and became the first non-Caucasian to win. The 1940 and 1944 Olympic Games had been canceled due to the war. In 1948, at age 28, Sammy Lee won a gold medal in the International Olympic Men's platform and a bronze medal in the 3 meter springboard. In the 1952 Games, Sammy won his second gold medal in the International Olympic Men's platform. At 32, he was the oldest person to win a gold medal in diving, and the first male diver to win back-to-back diving gold medals.

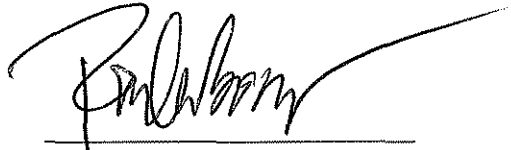
Dr. Lee, in addition to his medical practice served also as a very successful coach to future Olympic gold medal winners: he coached Bob Webster to gold medals in 1960 and 1964 and did the same with the great Greg Louganis, coaching him to a silver medal in 1976. In addition, Dr. Lee and his wife, Roz, discovered the PVA Shammy which was extremely convenient for practice dives - as regular towels became too wet.

In recognition of the great contributions of Dr. Sammy Lee - for his life as a family man, a patriot, a physician, a coach and an Olympic champion, it is appropriate that the intersection of Olympic Boulevard and Normandie Avenue be named as "Dr. Sammy Lee Square."

I THEREFORE MOVE that the intersection at Olympic Boulevard and Normandie Avenue Street be named as "Dr. Sammy Lee Square" and that the Department of Transportation be directed to erect permanent ceremonial sign(s) to this effect at this location.

PRESENTED BY:


HERB WESSON, Jr.
Councilman, 10th District


TOM LABONGE
Councilman, 4th District

SECONDED BY:



July 13, 2010
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ADOPTED
JUL 21 2010
LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL
FORTHWITH

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