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***PRESS RELEASE***
The San Francisco Human Rights Commission to Host Mayor of Naples Italy at Commission Meeting

Naples Mayor to address Commission regarding cooperation around the promotion and protection of human rights

(San Francisco, CA) The San Francisco Human Rights Commission (HRC) will host the Honorable Luigi de Magistris, Mayor of Naples, Italy, at the Commission’s Regular Public Meeting on Thursday, October 24, in City Hall Room 416 at 5:30 pm. De Magistris will address the Commission regarding cooperation around the promotion and protection of human rights. De Magistris’ presentation comes as the San Francisco Human Rights Commission and the Naples Department of Equal Opportunities are in the process of negotiating a Memorandum of Understanding “MOU” calling for greater cooperation.

“Naples is leading Italy on issues of human rights and equal opportunities, and we are proud to work closely with a world leader such as San Francisco,” said de Magistris. The proposed MOU provides a framework for the city agencies to share best practices and exchange information related to human rights. “The City of San Francisco, through the capacity of the Human Rights Commission, looks forward to working with the City of Naples in order to fight discrimination and strengthen human rights,” said Theresa Sparks, Executive Director of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission.

De Magistris began his career as a public prosecutor in 1995 and worked in Naples from 1998 to 2002. He was deputy public prosecutor in Catanzaro from 2002 to 2009 and also served as a Member of the European Parliament. De Magistris was recognized for his commitment to fighting against organized crime and corruption during his time as a prosecutor. As a member of the European Parliament, de Magistris served as President of the Commission on Budgetary Control and worked on issues such as transparency in the allocation of investment funds. He also spoke out on human rights issues, particularly against the forced return of vessels carrying migrants and asylum seekers on the high seas. In 2011, de Magistris ran for Mayor of Naples and won in the second round, defeating the right-wing candidate Gianni Lettieri with 65% of the vote.

De Magistris graduated summa cum laude from Federico II University of Naples Law School. He is married and has two sons.

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The Human Rights Commission was established in 1964 by City Ordinance and became a Charter Commission in 1990. In 2014 the HRC will celebrate 50 years of distinguished public service in human rights advocacy for the City and County of San Francisco.