

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, for many years, Rabbi Stephen Leon has been a leader to the entire community and served the needs of the descendants of the Spanish and Portuguese families expelled during the Inquisition and who are known as crypto-Jews of El Paso, and

**WHEREAS**, Rabbi Stephen Leon has served with distinction as the Rabbi and Rabbi Emeritus of Congregation B'nai Zion for 36 years, and has been on the faculty of UTEP for 20 years, and

**WHEREAS**, Rabbi Stephen Leon has been teaching classes and providing information to the citizens of El Paso for more than three decades about the descendants of the families expelled during the Spanish Inquisition who now live in our community, and

**WHEREAS**, for the past decade, Rabbi Stephen Leon has served as the founder and director of the Anusim Center of El Paso which provides musical, cultural, and educational programs for the people of El Paso, and

**WHEREAS**, Rabbi Stephen Leon has been the counselor, mentor, and advisor to hundreds of citizens of El Paso who are researching their historic connection to their crypto-Jewish ancestors from the Spanish Inquisition, and

**WHEREAS**, Rabbi Stephen Leon has brought to the attention of people in many countries the welcoming nature and support of the citizens of El Paso in regard to their hospitality toward the crypto-Jews in our community.

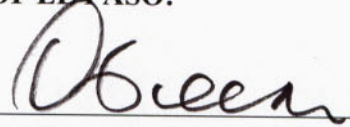
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:**

That the City of El Paso proudly honors and recognizes the significant contributions of Rabbi Stephen Leon throughout many decades of service to our community, and November 22, 2022 shall be known as, "RABBI STEPHEN LEON DAY".

(Signatures on the following page)

APPROVED this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of November 2022.

CITY OF EL PASO:



Oscar Leeser  
Mayor



ATTEST:



Laura D. Prine  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Carlos L. Armendariz  
Assistant City Attorney