RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 2008 AS NATIONAL METHAMPHETAMINE AWARENESS MONTH IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

WHEREAS, methamphetamine is a highly addictive, powerful man-made drug that produces feelings of euphoria that can last for up to 24 hours and results in psychotic behavior such as auditory hallucinations, mood disturbances, delusion, and paranoia and can result in short-term and long-term physical effects in the brain and elsewhere in the body; and

WHEREAS, studies have found that methamphetamine use is strongly linked to identity theft, domestic violence, overall crime rates, child abuse, and child neglect; and

WHEREAS, methamphetamine use places significant burdens on local social services and health care resources, law enforcement, corrections, courts, treatment programs and Santa Barbara County communities and families are forced to endure the effects of addiction and dependence; and

WHEREAS, methamphetamine use affects individuals of all ages, races, and ethnic backgrounds. All too often, meth abuse not only ruins the life of the user, it disrupts the lives of the users family, friends, and the community at large; and

WHERAS, since the passage of the Combat Meth Act in 2005, which restricted the sale of pseudoephedrine, the main ingredient of meth, the number of home-grown meth labs has dramatically decreased throughout the Nation and Santa Barbara County. Most methamphetamine available in the United States is produced in large clandestine laboratories in Mexico and smuggled in by drug cartels who produce it; and

WHEREAS, National Methamphetamine Awareness Month was established to increase awareness of methamphetamine and educate the public on effective ways to help prevent methamphetamine use at the international, Federal, State and local levels; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of the Methamphetamine Prevention Network, a collaborative effort of Public and Private organizations dedicated to reducing methamphetamine abuse throughout Santa Barbara County, was endorsed by the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors in February 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Methamphetamine Prevention Network has developed and implemented strategies covering methamphetamine education, prevention and intervention and the National Methamphetamine Awareness Month will play an important role in highlighting the communitywide efforts to increase awareness and decrease use of this highly addictive and dangerous drug; and

WHEREAS, National Methamphetamine Awareness Month represents a coordinated effort not only to reach potential meth users with a message of prevention, but also to educate current users about the effective treatment programs available to them; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HERBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors, County of Santa Barbara, State of California, recognize November as the 2008 National Methamphetamine Awareness Month here in Santa Barbara County. Passed and adopted this 18th^h day of November 2008.