



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

2011 APR -7 AM 9:20

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA  
CLERK OF THE  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Department Name: Fire  
Department No.: 031  
For Agenda Of: April 19, 2011  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Time: 5 mins.  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Michael W. Dyer, Fire Chief *Michael W. Dyer*  
Director 805 681-5507  
Contact Info: Captain David Sadecki, Public Information Officer

SUBJECT: Safely Surrendered Newborn Infant Program Resolution

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: yes

Other Concurrence: Public Health, District Attorney  
Social Services

Recommended Actions: That the Board of Supervisors approve the attached resolution designating all Santa Barbara County Fire Stations as safe surrender sites.

Summary Text:

The law allows a parent who is unable or unwilling to care for an infant to confidentially surrender the infant to any hospital in Santa Barbara County without fear of arrest or prosecution for child abandonment. This law will expand to include all fire stations in the Santa Barbara County Fire Department. The fire department will ensure compliance with California Safe Haven Law SB 1368 and related legislation. Fire Department Personnel shall follow Santa Barbara County EMS Agency policies and procedures, to ensure the surrendered infant is protected and medically cared for until EMS personnel deliver the infant to the closest hospital emergency department.

Background:

On January 1, 2001 California became one of a dozen states to enact a new law that is intended to provide for the health and safety of unwanted newborn infants. The "Safe Arms for Newborns" law (Senate Bill 1368) states that "no parent or other person who has lawful custody of a minor child 72 hours old or younger may be prosecuted for child abandonment if he or she voluntarily surrenders physical custody of the child to a designated employee at a public or private hospital emergency room or

er location designated by the county board of supervisors.” In an effort to disseminate information regarding this important legislation the California Department of Social Services selected the campaign used by the State of New Jersey called “No Shame, No Blame, No Names” and developed outreach materials to convey this message including posters, brochures and public service announcements.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

An implementation cost of \$347.40 for 16 fire stations for the purchase of signs and kits.

**Staffing Impacts:** None

**Special Instructions:**

Please send copy of the minute order to the following:

Rose Pueschel, Fire Department

**Attachments:**

Resolution

**Authored by:**

Fire Captain David Sadecki

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

**A RESOLUTION TO  
To Designate All Santa Barbara  
County Fire Stations as Safe-  
Surrender Sites**

**Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_**

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**WHEREAS**, Health & Safety Code Section 1255.7; Penal Code Section 271.5 and Welfare and Institutions Code Section 14005.24 allow a person to surrender a minor child, defined as being less than 72 hours old, to designated personnel at a hospital and any safe-surrender site designated by the Board of Supervisors without fear of arrest or prosecution, provided the infant has not been abused or neglected; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Health and Safety Code Section 1255.7, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors has the authority to designate fire stations as Safe-Surrender Sites in Santa Barbara County; and

**WHEREAS**, a provision of the law legally protects all agencies who decide to become Safe-Surrender Sites from any potential litigation involving their care of an abandoned infant; i.e., such as a baby that is older than 72 hours old, or a kidnapped baby who is dropped off by its captors.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED** that this Board of Supervisors designates all Santa Barbara County Fire Department Stations as Safe-Surrender Sites under Health and Safety Code Section 1255.7, and directs Santa Barbara County Fire Department to implement policies and procedures to comply with the Safe-Surrender Site program.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara,  
State of California, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2011, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

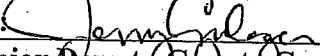
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

CHANDRA L. WALLAR  
CLERK OF THE BOARD

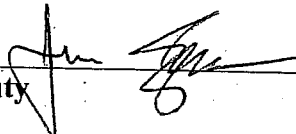
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIR, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

By: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
DENNIS A. MARSHALL  
COUNTY COUNSEL

By:   
Senior Deputy County Counsel

APPROVED AS TO ACCOUNTING FORM:  
ROBERT W. GEIS, C.P.A.  
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

By:   
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
JOYCE DUDLEY  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
KATHY GALLAGHER

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
DR. TAKASHI WADA  
PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_