

*RESOLUTION HONORING THE SANTA BARBARA  
COUNTY CERT COMMITTEE UPON ITS RECEIPT OF  
THE CALIFORNIA SERVICE GROUP OF THE YEAR AWARD*

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that only approximately ten to thirteen percent of the general public are prepared in any way for our next disaster; and,

**WHEREAS**, with the assistance of OEM's Aware & Prepare Initiative, emergency managers in Santa Barbara County have continued to expand local efforts to increase preparedness across jurisdictional boundaries; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Office of Emergency Management and local emergency managers formed a committee focusing on training residents as members of Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) in order to increase preparedness and educate their neighbors; and,

**WHEREAS**, the CERT Committee placed emphasis on disenfranchised populations such as Spanish-speaking residents and our youth; and,

**WHEREAS**, the efforts of the CERT Committee has resulted in over 3,000 men, women and teenagers being trained in CERT, in both English and Spanish; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's Office, in recognition of the cross-jurisdictional cooperation, the emphasis on disenfranchised residents and the partnership with local philanthropic funders, has awarded the Santa Barbara CERT Committee the "California's Service Group of the Year" Award.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors honors and commends the members of the Santa Barbara County CERT Committee for their efforts in working together to better prepare our community for the next disaster.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2012 by unanimous vote by all members present.