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COUNTY OF SUM IA BARBAR OF FIRE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

## **COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 2021 AS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, National Preparedness Month, provides an opportunity for residents to join citizens across the United States in preparing their homes, businesses, and communities for any type of emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency announced the 2021 National Preparedness Month theme of "Prepare to Protect. Preparing for disasters is protecting everyone you love;" and

WHEREAS, planning now is the best way to improve community recovery from disasters; when individuals take responsibility for preparing their families and their communities, the chance of survival and return to normalcy following a disaster is greatly increased; and

WHEREAS, the County Office of Emergency Management and partners are tasked with promoting and supporting emergency preparedness to educate individuals on local hazards and how to prepare for them; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County is home to several community-based preparedness and response teams, comprised of volunteers who have selflessly undergone hours of training to help our communities be more resilient; and

WHEREAS, this month, the County Office of Emergency Management urges all residents to plan for disasters, by participating in neighborhood preparedness activities, registering their contact information at www.ReadySBC.org to receive local alerts, and purchasing or refreshing their emergency kits with essential items; and

WHEREAS, pandemics are disasters and COVID-19 continues to affect Santa Barbara County in devastating ways, all residents are urged to stay vigilant with hand washing and social distancing, stay home if you are feeling ill, and get vaccinated to protect our community; and

WHEREAS, while we cannot always know when the next disaster or emergency will confront us, we must remain ready; together, we can ensure that we have the information and resources needed to safeguard our communities from a crisis or disaster.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim the month of September 2021, as National Preparedness Month in Santa Barbara County and calls on all government agencies, private organizations, and the people and businesses of Santa Barbara County to develop their own emergency preparedness plan, and work together toward creating a stronger and more resilient community.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 31st day of August 2021, by unanimous vote of all members present.

ATTEST: Mann Drugo ato

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Supervisor - 5th District