

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 296630

ADOPTED ON JUN 10 2002

WHEREAS, in 1983, two San Diego Police officers were shot in the front driveway of a suspect's home; one officer died immediately from his wounds, while the other bled to death in the forty-five minutes it took to obtain the medical assistance necessary to save his life; and

WHEREAS, the San Diego Police Department considered training SWAT officers as paramedics, but this was found to be infeasible; and

WHEREAS, in 1987, an early test of the system proved successful when the Special Trauma and Rescue (STAR) medics were credited with saving the life of a SDPD SWAT officer whose neck was broken during an operation; and

WHEREAS, within fifteen seconds these tactically trained paramedics were able to provide cervical spine protection and secure his airway; and

WHEREAS, in 1997, San Diego Fire and Life Safety Services (SDFLSS) took over the advanced and basis life support ambulance system for the City of San Diego and with it, the services of the STAR program; and

WHEREAS, the STAR Team provides the highest level of pre-hospital medical service available to any major metropolitan provider system; and

WHEREAS, the STAR Team consists of 15 Firefighter/Paramedics and 2 Engineer/Paramedics. In 2001, the STAR team responded to 75 Law Enforcement Missions and 11 Coast

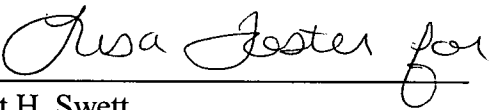
Guard Missions; and

WHEREAS, in 2000 and 2001, the STAR Team spent the better part of a year preparing for the possibility of a large scale shooting incident, similar to the one at Columbine High School, in Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the members of the STAR Team are specially trained in helicopter and boat operations and water survival techniques by the US Coast Guard. STAR also responds to MEDEVAC missions, by air and by sea, when requested by the United States Coast Guard's flight surgeon; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the citizen's of San Diego, does hereby proclaim May 28, 2002 as "**STAR Team Day**" in honor of the outstanding contributions and valuable service that the STAR Team provides to the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By   
Stuart H. Swett  
Senior Deputy City Attorney

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