

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 298774

ADOPTED ON JAN 13 2004

WHEREAS, disaster can strike at any time and in any place, often putting millions of Americans at risk and destroying billions of dollars worth of property; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, otherwise known as FEMA, is an independent federal agency with over 2,500 full-time employees and 4,000 standby volunteers across the country who are willing and able to assist in areas that have been devastated by disaster; and

WHEREAS, FEMA's mission is to reduce the loss of life and property and to protect our nation's critical infrastructure from all types of hazards, through a comprehensive emergency management program of risk reduction, preparedness, response, and recovery; and

WHEREAS, FEMA was created by an executive order from President Jimmy Carter in 1979 in an effort to merge the many independent disaster-related organization into one effective agency; and

WHEREAS, FEMA performs several important functions that are necessary in the event of an emergency including; working with state and local officials to determine the scope of the needs in the impacted area, creating and staffing a disaster field office, and coordinating agencies under the Federal Response Plan, providing disaster aid, funding emergency planning, and creating urban search and rescue teams; and


WHEREAS, FEMA has been instrumental in helping San Diego families begin the process of rebuilding after the devastating losses of the Cedar Fire by establishing a Local Assistance Center in the Scripps Ranch Community of San Diego; and

WHEREAS, the Local Assistance Center had over 40 organizations available to answer questions and provide services including, the Small Business Association, the Red Cross, the City of San Diego, San Diego Gas and Electric and Crisis Intervention, among others; and

WHEREAS, in the weeks following the Cedar Fire, the Local Assistance Center was able to serve over 3,000 requests and inquiries, preformed 550 property assessments, issued 338 demolition permits as well as providing thousands of dollars of aid to displaced residents; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the citizens of San Diego, does hereby declare January 13, 2004, to be "**FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY DAY**" in the City of San Diego in recognition of their extraordinary service to the people of San Diego.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By 
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