

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 300549

ADOPTED ON JUN 20 2005

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego has learned valuable lessons from responding to large-scale disasters such as wildfires and mudslides, including that there are never enough public safety resources to respond to every neighborhood in a timely manner and that citizens want to help; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego's answer to emergency preparedness is Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT); and

WHEREAS, after the devastating Cedar Fire that took 14 lives and destroyed more than 280,000 acres in October of 2003, the City of San Diego's Fire-Rescue Department developed the CERT San Diego program as a way to meet the vital needs of local communities; and

WHEREAS, in CERT San Diego academies, citizens are taught life-saving actions by San Diego Fire-Rescue personnel that can help families, neighbors, businesses, and communities get through the first few hours following a major disaster when emergency services are overwhelmed; and

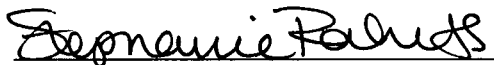
WHEREAS, the fifth CERT academy graduated this June for a total of 181 volunteers who have successfully completed the program, and who are certified to national Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) standards, since the program's inception last year; and

WHEREAS, Fire Chief Jeff Bowman; the Fire-Rescue Department; volunteer graduates of the CERT program in communities throughout San Diego; the Fireman's Fund, which provided start up moneys for the program; and the New Car Dealers Association, which donated a vehicle to the program, are to be commended for ensuring that this vital program is actively providing an invaluable service for the citizens of San Diego; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby recognize the overwhelming success of the CERT program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that June 20, 2005, be and is hereby proclaimed to be "**COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM – CERT DAY**" in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE, City Attorney

By 
Stephanie Rahlfs
Deputy City Attorney

SR:jb
06/14/2005
Or.Dept:Council-Madaffer
R-2005-1337