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When Stamped In Red

FILE NO. 98-1390

RESOLUTION NO. 712-98

1 [Commending Neighborhood Emergency Response Team]
2 RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT'S
3 NEIGHBORHOOD EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (NERT) PROGRAM FOR VIGILANTLY
4 PREPARING FOR A DISASTER IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO.
5 WHEREAS, the City of San Francisco is located upon the Pacific
6 Rim ring of fire and is therefore prone to cataclysmic disasters such
7 as earthquakes and their aftermaths; and,
8 WHEREAS, upon the event of such a cataclysmic disaster, the
9 first people on the scene to conduct initial search, rescue, and
10 first aid are local volunteers; and,
11 WHEREAS, these volunteers are in need of disaster-preparedness
12 training because they will be unable to rely solely on the inevitably
13 overwhelmed professional emergency services following a major
14 disaster; and,
15 WHEREAS, soon after the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, a group of
16 concerned Marina District citizens worked with the San Francisco Fire
17 Department (SFFD) to establish the NERT disaster response training
18 program for local volunteers; and,
19 WHEREAS, in response, the Fire Department developed a five-week
20 NERT training course by adapting a Los Angeles City Fire Department
21 program to the seismic structure of the Bay Area, the number of
22 earthquake faults located here, the types of construction and other
23 circumstances specific to San Francisco; and,
24 WHEREAS, the 18-hour (six week) NERT training courses provided
25 by members of the SFFD, at no cost, have resulted in over 8,400 NERT

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1 volunteers trained to respond to 46 neighborhood staging areas in a
2 "Response Level Three Event", a regional disaster such as a large
3 earthquake; and,

4 WHEREAS, NERT has effectively trained these people in basic
5 disaster skills to allow them and their neighbors to be self-
6 sufficient for a period of at least 72 hours following a major
7 disaster; and,

8 WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Emergency Response Teams augment the
9 capabilities of the SFFD through practicing communication between
10 teams and their assigned Fire Department battalion stations; and,

11 WHEREAS, NERT training has expanded its focus beyond just the
12 neighborhoods to include corporations and city employees; and,

13 WHEREAS, NERT training is available in Cantonese and soon will
14 be in Spanish, to reflect the needs of all San Francisco residents;
15 and; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco recognizes
17 and commends the SFFD and all NERT volunteers for their forward-
18 thinking, practical, and highly effective approach to disaster-
19 preparedness for San Francisco.

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SUPERVISOR GAVIN NEWSOM
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Adopted - Board of Supervisors, San Francisco August 24, 1998

Ayes: Supervisors Ammiano Bierman Brown Katz Kaufman Leno
Medina Yaki Yee

Absent: Supervisors Newsom Teng

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution
was adopted by the Board of Supervisors
of the City and County of San Francisco

File No.
98-1390

AUG 28 1998

Date Approved



Clerk



Mayor