

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF SAN BENITO**

Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Benito Authorizing the Creation of the "San Benito County Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) Unit."

A Volunteer Organization of the County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services (OES)

**WHEREAS**, a clear and acknowledged threat of loss of traditional communications services such as VHF and UHF radios, landline telephone, cell phone, Internet and other such modern telecommunications technologies exist during time of disaster or local adversity; and

**WHEREAS**, the loss of traditional communications services will prove to be highly detrimental to an efficient, safe and effective disaster emergency response by local governments; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interests of the citizens of San Benito County to have at their disposal a trained team of volunteer experts equipped and capable of providing emergency auxiliary telecommunications resources, service and personnel; and

**WHEREAS**, there exists a coalition of local citizenry with expertise and experience who are skilled in auxiliary communications technologies such as amateur radios and can provide essential additional staff resources intended to augment agency and Public Safety communications; and

**WHEREAS**, the San Benito County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services (OES), in accordance with the county's Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) Plan, shall provide authority for the participation of volunteer Auxiliary Communications Specialists and Amateur Radio Operators to provide essential communications during periods of national, state or local emergency, declared or undeclared; and

**WHEREAS**, Auxiliary Communications Service/Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (ACS/RACES) operations shall at all times operate in accordance with FCC Rules and Regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Benito recognize that the protection of the health and safety and preservation of the lives and property of the people of the county from the effects of natural, man-made, or war-caused emergencies which result in conditions of extreme peril to life, property, and resources is of paramount importance to all citizens of San Benito County; and

**WHEREAS**, natural and man-made disasters have the real potential of disrupting traditional communications services; and

WHEREAS, having a trained and organized volunteer "Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) Unit" is a highly effective and efficient means to augment agency and Public Safety communications during times of disaster or local adversity.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Benito does hereby authorize the creation of an all volunteer "San Benito County Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) Unit." This Unit's mission is to provide for the participation of volunteer Auxiliary Communications Specialists, and Amateur Radio Operators in providing essential auxiliary communications during periods of national, state or local emergency, declared or undeclared as authorized by the San Benito County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED THAT the official name shall be "San Benito County Auxiliary Communications Service and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service Unit" and shall be organized within the County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services. Furthermore, every volunteer member of "San Benito County Auxiliary Communications Service and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services Unit" shall be preregistered with the county as a Disaster Service Worker in accordance with the California Disaster Service Worker Volunteer Program and the California Emergency Services Act.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Benito, State of California at the meeting of said Board held on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2011, by the following vote:

AYES:	SUPERVISORS:	BARRIOS, DE LA CRUZ, BOTELHO, RIVAS, MUENZER
NOES:	SUPERVISORS:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	SUPERVISORS:	NONE
ABSENT:	SUPERVISORS:	NONE

By: Margie Barrios  
Margie Barrios, Chairperson  
San Benito County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:  
Denise Thome, Clerk of the Board

By: Denise R Thome

Date: 5/24/11

Approved as to Legal Form:  
Matthew W. Granger, County Counsel

By: Tena F. Chaffer

Date: 5/12/11