

*The Board of Supervisors of  
Contra Costa County, California*

In the matter of:

**Resolution No. 2011/57**

**Honoring Barbara Center, RN for her years of service to Emergency Medical Services and to Contra Costa County.**

WHEREAS, Barbara Center began her nursing career at Children's Hospital Oakland after graduating in 1967 from Providence College of Nursing; she developed an interest in labor and delivery, leading to her obtaining certification as a Lamaze instructor; while working at Broadway Hospital in Vallejo; Barbara moved into emergency nursing, eventually becoming a paramedic base hospital coordinator at then Brookside Hospital in San Pablo; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Center joined the Contra Costa Health Services' Emergency Medical Services (EMS) staff in February 1985 as the Prehospital Care Coordinator; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Barbara Center became the EMS Agency's first Trauma Coordinator helping to shape the County's trauma program following the designation of John Muir Medical Center as the County's Level II Trauma Center; and

WHEREAS, in 1991 under a grant from the California EMS Authority, Barbara Center became the first Regional Disaster Medical/Health Specialist for the Northern California Coastal Region supporting Dr. William Walker in his role as the Regional Disaster Medical/Health Coordinator, developing medical mutual aid plans and assisting the 16 Northern California Coastal counties in medical disaster planning and in medical mutual aid response to disasters and emergency incidents, as well as assisting in statewide medical mutual aid planning; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 1997, Barbara Center was responsible for the organization and development of the Bay Area Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT CA-6), which was to become one of the premier DMATs available to respond under federal authority to disasters anywhere in the nation; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, Barbara Center was responsible for developing Contra Costa's first EMS for Children program; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 2008, together with Dr. Neil Jayasekera, Barbara Center organized and supports the Contra Costa Medical Reserve Corps, a group of highly dedicated medical volunteers available to assist within the county in disaster medical response and community events such as health fairs and vaccination clinics;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Barbara Center be recognized on the occasion of her retirement after 26 years of Contra Costa County service for her lifetime contributions to emergency medical service and for the legacy she leaves for the people of Contra Costa County and the State of California.

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**GAYLE B. UILKEMA**

Chair,  
District II Supervisor

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**JOHN GIOIA**  
District I Supervisor

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**MARY N. PIEPHO**  
District III Supervisor

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**KAREN MITCHOFF**  
District IV Supervisor

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**FEDERAL D. GLOVER**  
District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: February 15, 2011

David J. Twa,

By: \_\_\_\_\_, Deputy