

**National Association for Search and Rescue, Inc.**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**January 20-21, 2007**

**Agenda Item 1:**

*Subject:* Opening Administrative Business

- a. Call to Order (President -- Randy Servis) Meeting called to order at 1400 hours EST. The conference call room was initiated so that absent board members could attend the meeting via conference call.
- b. Roll Call (Secretary – Kathy Miller)
  1. Present
    - i. Randy Servis
    - ii. Kathy Miller
    - iii. Cole Brown
    - iv. Art Wolff
    - v. Jim Stumpf
    - vi. Dan Hourihan
    - vii. Dave Meek
    - viii. Stephen Tropp – Legal Advisor \*
  2. Absent
    - i. Scott Morgan
    - ii. Dion Petaros
    - iii. National Search and Rescue Committee (NSARC) Representative \*
- \* Non-voting Board Member.
3. Quorum verified at 1405 hour EST
- c. Welcome of guests and introductions
  1. Staff Present
    - i. Megan Bartlett – Executive Director
    - ii. Ross Robinson – Chief Financial Officer
    - iii. Janet Adere – Education Service Director
    - iv. Ellen Wingerd – Bookstore/Membership Manager
  2. Committee chairs present
    - i. Janet Yatchak – SAR dog section
    - ii. Norm Rooker – Flood and Swift Water Committee
  3. Incoming Board Members Present
    - i. Norma Snelling

- ii. Ken Lesperance
- iii. Vicki Wooters

4. Members Present

- i. Chris Long – Washington State SAR Coordinator.

d. Review and approval of prior minutes – September 2006 Board of Director's meeting and November 2006 Board of Director's Phone conference.

1. ***Motion to accept minutes of September meeting as written made by Cole Brown, seconded by Art Wolff.*** During discussion, Norma Snelling pointed out a typing error in Agenda Item 8, paragraph 8, last line. It should read, "...are now awaiting its review and approval..." Jim Stumpf requested that all acronyms be spelled out at first use in the document. ***Motion and second amended to accept minutes as corrected, motion carried unanimously.***
2. ***Motion made by Jim Stumpf to accept the November phone conference minutes as written, seconded by Dan Hourihan.*** During discussion Randy Servis pointed out an error in the President's Report. The ASTM committee should be listed as F32 not E32. ***Motion and second amended to accept minutes as corrected, motion carried unanimously.***

*COPY OF APPROVED MINUTES NOT ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES  
PLEASE REFER TO APPROVED MINUTES POSTED ON NASAR WEBSITE.*

e. President's remarks

1. President Servis began his remarks by thanking the board for their support during his tenure as President. President Servis stated that NASAR has accomplished much in the last 3 years and he is humbled by the advances made by the organization and by the level of acceptance and recognition gained for the organization at the federal level particularly. President Servis went on to say that during the strategic planning process, the participants felt that it would take up to 5 years, may be longer for NASAR to achieve the level of recognition at the federal level that the organization has achieved in just the last 2 years.
2. President Servis requested that Board Members not involve them selves in email or other communications that cause NASAR to be viewed negatively.
3. President Servis reported on the Jan. 19, 2006 NIMS Practitioner's Standards Working Group meeting he attended, Washington DC. He reported on the working group's recommendations.

4. President Servis also reported on Dan Hourihan's participation in the NIMS Mutual-Aid Working Group and Kathy Miller's participation in the NIMS Update Working Group.
  5. President Servis closed his report by sincerely thanking staff for their dedication to NASAR and their assistance to him during his tenure as President of the Organization.
- f. Treasure's report – Fiscal year 2006 – Report was given by Ross Robinson (CFO) due to absence of Dion Petaros.
1. NASAR ended the year with a \$20,000 loss (un-audited). This was a direct result of the over estimate of room nights at the 2006 NASAR Conference. The conference Contract was negotiated and signed by J. Golike (former Executive Director) who estimated that 1000 room nights would be booked. SAR 2006 fell far short of that threshold and \$26,000 expenditure resulted. Mr. Robinson pointed out without the loss at the conference the organization would have had a profit.
  2. This is the last contract that we are aware of that NASAR was encumbered to by the former Executive Director (except the ongoing contracts with Jones and Bartlett and Don Cooper).
  3. Mr. Robinson reported that even though the organization ended the year with a loss, the financial health of the organization continues to improve.
- g. Old Business – As that each of the these items relied upon each other, the President using the prerogative of the chair the Old business was taken out of order stated on the agenda. These minutes reflect order of items as addressed in the meeting.

President Servis recognized Ken Lesperance. Mr. Lesperance raised a point of order and objected to these items being heard by the old board and that the new board should address these items as new business. President Servis overruled the point of order, as Mr. Lesperance was not a member of the assembly. Hearing no further from the assembly the meeting continued.

1. *Subject: Membership Categories*

***Motion made by Dan Hourihan to accept the membership categories as proposed in agenda Attachment IV, seconded by Kathy Miller.*** During the discussion the membership category fees were discussed and not amended. Vicki Wooters asked if this would clear up the issue of dual membership being required in some instances as the result of conflict in the by laws. President Servis stated that this specific issue would be clarified under the by law agenda item. ***Motion carries 4-2 with Art Wolff and Jim Stumpf opposing.***

At approximately 1430 hours, the conference phone call was ended as no absent board member had joined the meeting.

President Servis recognized Ken Lesperance. Mr. Lesperance was concerned as to how proposals had been identified in the agenda. He indicated that he did not wish his name attached to the various proposals identified as his, as he had only suggested word changes and did not necessarily agree with the underlining concept. President Servis expressed his understanding as proposals were identified as his, when they were the results of numerous board of director working sessions and were a reflection of the board's work not just his. Mr. Lesperance again expressed his concern as to these issues not being addressed by the new board. He politely asked to be excused and to be called back into the meeting at the time the new board would be seated.

2. ***Subject: Reorganization of NASAR Organization Chart/ BOD Committee restructuring***

***Motion made by Cole Brown to approve the Organizational chart identified in the agenda as Attachment II-B, seconded by Kathy Miller.*** During discussion President Servis provided the background as to why this item is on the current agenda. He pointed out the various work sessions and votes that the board had already taken on the various items. The direction the by-laws committee was given was to reconcile the by-laws to the organization restructure approved as to concept unanimously by the Board in January 2006. Dave Meeks opposed this organizational chart on the basis that his proposal will better serve NASAR. Steve Tropp offered that the more vertical and organizational chart is the more easily the organization can create a single voice, and that the more horizontal the chart the more likely there will be disparate voices that may confuse members or customers creating increased potential for liability. Questions also were asked concerning where specific functions such as fundraising would fit in to the chart. President Servis answered that fundraising would fit under Finance and Strategic Planning. ***Cole Brown called the question, motion carries 4-2 with Art Wolff and Dave Meek opposing.***

3. **Subject: 2006 By-Laws update**

- i. President Servis described the process he would like to use to go through the by laws. He would like to go page by page with a consensus vote on each page, thumbs up, the page is satisfactory and we can move to the next page, sideways thumb, more information is needed, or thumbs down, not satisfied with the page and more work is needed. Simple majority of like-sign thumbs would rule. All agreed.
- ii. The board went through the bylaws page by page using Jim Stumpf's (Agenda attachment IIIA) proposed language as primary language.
- iii. President Servis allowed anyone in attendance to offer proposed language changes.

***Motion made by Cole Brown to approve the bylaws as amended and revised on January 20, 2006 in Chantilly, Va. at 1700 hours EST, seconded by Jim Stumpf. No Discussion occurred. Motion carries 4-2 with Art Wolff and Dave Meek opposing.***

Board recesses for break from 1710 to 1720 hours EST.

4. **Subject: Instructor/Evaluator Process**

- i. President Servis proposes using the same process as for the bylaws for going through agenda Attachment V. All agreed.
- ii. The board went through the document page by page, and President Servis allowed anyone in attendance to offer proposed language changes.

***Motion made by Kathy Miller to accept Instructor Evaluator Process as amended, seconded by Dan Hourihan. No discussion occurred. Motion carries unanimously.***

Board has working dinner from 1830-1900 hours EST.

Ken Lesperance returns to meeting at approximately 1800 hours EST.

- h. Recognition of outgoing board members -- President Servis recognized outgoing board members Cole Brown, Jim Stumpf, and Dion Petaros for their service to the board. He then presented Mr. Brown and Mr. Stumpf with plaques and life membership to NASAR.

- i. Seating of incoming Board Members -- President Servis welcomed incoming Board Members Norma Snelling, Vicki Wooters and Ken Lesperance and seated them on the Board.

Art Wolff left the meeting at approximately 1930 hours

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## **Agenda Item 2**

*Subject:* Election of 2007 Officers

Executive director Megan Bartlett conducted the elections for president.  
Nominated were:

***Dave Meek nominated by Norma Snelling, seconded by Vicki Wooters***

***Norma Snelling nominated by Ken Lesperance, seconded by Vicki Wooters.***

***Kathy Miller nominated by Randy Servis, seconded by Dan Hourihan***

***Dave Meek withdrew from the race.***

***After secret ballots, Kathy Miller is elected President.***

The newly-elected President then conducts the elections for Secretary and Treasurer

1. ***Nominations for Secretary:***

***Dan Hourihan nominated by Randy Servis; Mr. Hourihan declined the nomination.***

***Ken Lesperance nominated by Norma Snelling; Mr. Lesperance declined the nomination.***

***Randy Servis nominated by Ken Lesperance, seconded by Vicki Wooters. No other nominations heard, Randy Servis is elected as Secretary.***

2. ***Nominations for Treasurer:***

***Ken Lesperance nominated by Randy Servis, seconded by Vicki Wooters. No other nominations heard, Ken Lesperance elected as Treasurer.***

At 2015 hours the meeting was adjourned until 0800 hours on January 21, 2007.

On January 22, 2007 at 0830, President Kathy Miller called the meeting to order.

Roll Call.

1. Present
  - i. Kathy Miller
  - ii. Randy Servis
  - iii. Ken Lesperance
  - iv. Dan Hourihan
  - v. Norma Snelling
  - vi. Vicki Wooters
  - vii. Stephen Tropp – Legal Advisor \*
2. Absent
  - i. Scott Morgan
  - ii. Art Wolff
  - iii. Dave Meeks
  - iv. National Search and Rescue Committee (NSARC) Representative \*

\* Non-voting Board Member.

Quorum verified at 0835 hour EST

3. Staff Present
  - i. Megan Bartlett – Executive Director
  - ii. Ross Robinson – Chief Financial Officer
  - iii. Janet Adere – Education Service Director
  - iv. Ellen Wingerd – Bookstore/Membership Manager
4. Committee chairs present
  - i. Janet Yatchak – SAR dog section
  - ii. Norm Rooker – Flood and Swift Water Committee
  - iii. Cole Brown – State SAR Coordinators Committee
5. Members present
  - i. Chris Long – Washington State SAR Coordinator

President Miller advised the Board and those in attendance that she had received a letter of resignation from the Board of Directors by Dave Meeks. She advised that she had accepted his resignation and would make an appointment to fill his position on the board in the near future.

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**Agenda Item 3****Subject: 2007 Budget**

Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Ross Robinson presented to the board the proposed 2007 Budget. The budget was based upon 2006 actuals and proposes a balanced budget. After a line-item review and discussion, a motion was made.

***Motion by Norma Snelling to accept budget as presented, seconded by Randy Servis. Motion carried 3-0 with Vicki Wooters and Ken Lesperance abstaining***

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**Agenda Item 4****Subject: Executive Director's Update**

Executive Director Megan Bartlett provided the board with membership demographics report. She also provided a report on the Education Department Statistics from January 2006 to October 2006. These showed that a total of 651 courses or certifications had occurred. With 2465 participants certified, and a total of 29,804 accumulated course hours. The Executive Director reported on the National Search and Rescue Committee (NSARC) meeting that had occurred on January 18, 2007. She indicated that the Interagency Agreement is being sent to each Department Secretary for signatures. The NSARC will be completing a P&P. The National Search and Rescue Plan (NSARP) is currently being sent to each federal agency to sign. The next meeting of the NSARC will be June 28, 2007.

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**Agenda Item 5****Subject: Update National Search and Rescue Conference 2007, Charlotte  
Update National Search and Rescue Conference 2008**

Executive Director Bartlett updated the Board on the National Search and Rescue Conference 2007. She indicated that the Memo of Understanding (MOU) with the North Carolina SAR Counsel is ready and is expected to be signed within the next couple of weeks. She indicated that the Public Information Officer with the Charlotte Fire Department would be working with us on this event. Executive Director Bartlett indicated that an invitation had been sent to Director Paulson, FEMA, to be the keynote speaker. She indicated that we were ahead of last year with confirmed exhibitors. PMI will be sponsoring the Technical Track. There will be an instructor workshop during the conference. She advised in attempt to hold down costs, there will be a box lunch provided on Friday of the event, instead of the normal hot meal. The board was given their working assignments for the event.

Executive Director Bartlett indicated that she was recommending to not go to New Mexico with the National SAR Conference 2008. There were issues with the conference center, hotels and local sponsorships. She indicated that she would continue to look at the Interstate 25 corridor, to find a location and report to the board during the March Conference Call.

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### **Agenda Item 6**

**Subject: Committee Reports; Education**

1. Update MLPI project – Executive Director Bartlett reported that the Managing the Lost Person Incident (MLPI) final draft was due at the end of the month. The artwork for the cover of the textbook was pending model releases. Dan O'Connor and George Rice were currently working on the instructional materials.
2. Update ISAR Project and Online Education proposal – Staff recommended to Board to make the ISAR (Intro to Search and Rescue) final exam equal to the SARTECH III Exam similar to the FUNSAR and SARTECH II. Staff also recommended to the board that NASAR enter into best and final offer negotiations with CenterLearn to provide ISAR on-line.

***Motion made by Randy Servis to except the recommendation of staff to make the ISAR final exam equal to the SARTECH III written exam, seconded by Vicki Wooters, motion carries unanimously.***

***Motion made by Vicki Wooters that Staff negotiate the best and final offer with CenterLearn, seconded by Dan Hourihan, motion carries 4-1 with Ken Lesperance opposing.***

3. Update SARTECH Spanish conversion – Staff advised that the SARTECH Spanish translation has a January 31, 2007. It was expected to be completed on time. The product will be given to the new Certifications Unit and Curricula Unit upon completion.

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### **Agenda Item 7**

**Subject: Committee Reports; SAR Dog**

No SAR Dog Section Report was submitted. The board expressed concerns about no committee report submitted, even though the Committee Chair was present. The board was advised that the Board Liaison had indicated that a report was not required, and the chair was not prepared to submit an oral report. The board requested a written report within the next three weeks be submitted and emailed to the board.

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**Agenda Item 8****Subject: Committee Reports; Flood/Water Rescue**

Members of the Association for Rescue at Sea (AFRAS) approached Executive Director Bartlett to begin dialog in creating a Water Rescue Credentialing Program. After the White House Katrina report was issued, AFRAS identified NASAR as the credentialing body in the US. They felt that had there been a credentialing program of this caliber in place during Katrina, many more volunteers would have been permitted to participate and in effect, save lives.

AFRAS would like to write and provide guidance in the creation of the Water Rescue Credentialing Program. They will provide the technical writer and have received permission from the US Coast Guard Auxiliary to use all training manuals and tailor said manuals for NASAR's use.

AFRAS ([www.afras.org](http://www.afras.org)) is comprised of retired, high ranking US Coast Guard and US Navy Officers. In 1976, to address the needs of rescue organizations around the world, to raise funds, exchange information and provide co-operation, a group of American professional seamen and business men formed the Association for Rescue at Sea (AFRAS).

***Motion by Randy Servis to allow Staff and Flood/Water Rescue Committee to move forward with representatives from AFRAS in creating a water rescue accreditation program. After final product is completed, the program to come before the Board for approval. Seconded by Vicki Wooters, motion carries unanimously.***

See Minutes Attachment I for report by committee chair.

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**Agenda Item 8****Subject: Committee Reports; Hug-a-Tree – update**

NASAR has entered into a licensing agreement with the Los Angeles County SO (LA) to allow LA to use the Hug-A-Tree logo and NASAR logo in the video production of Hug-A-Tree. NASAR will have unlimited rights to reproduce and sell the video and NASAR will maintain all current rights regarding Hug-A-Tree. LA has approached Disney and they are funding the production of this video. The actual copyrights to the video are still being negotiated. NASAR will have approval of all content of video during production to maintain the original intention of Hug-A-Tree. If NASAR does not agree with the final product, all logos may be withheld. Estimated release date is May 2007.

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**Agenda Item 9**

*Subject: Committee Reports; Technical*

*No Report Submitted:*

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**Agenda Item 10**

*Subject: Committee Reports; Mounted*

The Mounted Committee submitted a proposal to the Board of Directors for the development of training course material See Minutes Attachment II for further.

***Motion by Randy Servis for the Mounted SAR Committee to move forward in developing training course material; seconded by Ken Lesperance, motion carries unanimously.***

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**Agenda Item 12**

*Subject: Outstanding projects or assignments from previous meetings*

The board reviewed current outstanding projects and assignments.

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**Agenda Item 13**

*Subject: SUSAR – State Urban Search and Rescue*

IN 2001 local and regional jurisdictions realized the need for USAR resources that were available by local or state call out. Apparently 27 states now have non-FEMA USAR capability. Two years ago, a suggestion was made to this board to adopt, carte blanche the FEMA USAR programs as NASAR wrote them all under contract to FEMA. It was further suggested that the FEMA K9 type Type II and I certifications be adopted as is and that the FEMA readiness test be adopted as the Type III disaster K9 certification. Since that time states frustrated over the lack of a single source for training and certification have organized into a State USAR organization. They do not yet have the ability to create and implement a FEMA equivalent certification program for Non-FEMA USAR resources.

***Motion by Randy Servis; For NASAR to establish a State Urban Search and Rescue Committee to develop training, testing and certifications that meets the needs of state, tribal, local and private sector non-FEMA USAR Teams; seconded by Vicki Wooters, motion carries unanimously.***

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**Agenda Item 14***Subject: NASAR Position Statement on the Renting of PLB's*

Executive Director Bartlett presented to the Board of Directors two proposals, one from Mr. Leon Nelson, Redding, California and from Mr. Kevin Stoltz, President, PLB Rentals, LLC. The proposal requested NASAR to release a position statement in support of PLB Rentals. The Board discussed the proposals and its support of PLB system. (See Minutes Attachment III)

***Motion by Ken Lesperance, That NASAR not take a position on the rental of PLB's and to refer people to our previous position in support of the use of PLB's; seconded by Dan Hourihan, motion carries unanimously.***

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**Agenda Item 15***Subject: Appointment of members to Organization Chart*

President Miller advised the Board that she would be making appointments and assignments to the new Organizational Structure of the next couple of weeks.

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**Agenda Item 16***Subject: Schedule of 2007 Conference Call and Meeting dates and times*

The following dates were set for Conference Calls and Board Meetings:

March 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2007	1300 EST	Conference Call
May 9, 2007	1300 EST	Conference Call
May 31, 2007	General Membership Meeting – Charlotte, NC	
July 11, 2007	1300 EST	Conference Call
Sept 15-16	Location of 2008 Conference	
Nov 14, 2007	1300 EST	Conference Call
Jan 26-27, 2008	Chantilly, VA	

## **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

President Miller requested from those attending for any other items.

President Miller recognized Mr. Chris Long, Washington State SAR Coordinator. Mr. Long expressed to the board the concerns that many in the SAR community have about the current typing and credentialing process used by FEMA and the NIC. Specifically those member agencies from the NSARC, National Park Service, Mountain Rescue Association, and NASAR had not been involved in the development of those items. As these organizations represent the vast majority of SAR Responders in the nation. Mr. Long strongly suggested that NASAR take a strong position that because these organizations had not been involved the process was invalid and should not be adopted.

***Motion by Randy Servis; NASAR does not support the process that was used by the Department of Homeland Security, FEMA, and NIC to develop Search and Rescue typing and credentialing documents. The process is invalid because the National Search and Rescue Committee and its member agencies, NASAR and Mountain Rescue Association were not involved in the development of these documents. Seconded by Ken Lesperance, the motion carries unanimously.***

President Miller recognized Vicki Wooters. Ms. Wooters requested information why resources with SARTECH SARTECH II, SARTECH III certifications and I were not listed on the website like the Canine Resources. A Discussion occurred to the history of the Canine Database, the uses of that database, and the intent of the database. A review of the purpose of NASAR also occurred. It was determined that the current database may be being used as a response document by some agency having jurisdiction and how this was contrary to the intent, the National Response Plan, the National Search and Rescue Plan, the Emergency Mutual Aid Compact System and NASAR governing charter.

***Motion by Vicki Wooters, to remove the Canine Database from the website, seconded by Dan Hourihan, motion carries 3-2 with Norma Snelling and Ken Lesperance opposed.***

At 1245 hours motion to adjourn by Randy Servis, seconded by Vicki Wooters, motion carries unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Randy Servis  
Secretary of the Corporation.

**Attachment I  
Flood/Water Rescue Committee Report**

**SEE WRITTEN REPORT BY TIM ROGERS and NORM ROOKER**

## **Attachment II Mounted Program Rollout Proposal**

### **NASAR Mounted SAR Program Rollout**

#### **Concept Proposal**

Submitted by Jorene Downs  
Chair, Mounted SAR Special Interest Group  
December 14, 2006 Page 1 of 1  
January Board Meeting 2007

#### **NASAR Board:**

Like others in SAR, Mounted SAR (MSAR) should already be looking at meeting national standards.

ASTM will be the recognized source for minimum standards for Mounted SAR.

I'm trying to think outside the box so we can be positioned to roll out NASAR Mounted SAR very quickly and more profitably, when the time comes that I am fairly confident that the ASTM task group is fairly close to agreement. (An entire new proposal is currently pending from the ASTM Mounted Searcher TPOC, Una Smith, resulting in more delays.)

A. I suggest packaging Mounted SAR training material (PowerPoint presentation, related instructor and handout material) and sell it to anyone interested. That package would be in two parts, addressing nonmounted and mounted requirements based on the pending ASTM standards.

1. This package would position anyone who wants to be compliant with ASTM MSAR standards for meeting the non-riding requirements of the standard, and provide them with some consistent options / methods to test skills, etc., while handling / mounted. (The NASAR MSAR program would also use this package.)

2. The AHJ or MSAR unit might also need an outside source to meet the ASTM F2209 requirements that I anticipate will be required for ASTM Mounted SAR standards. (I fought to get the F2209 requirement included in the MSAR standards draft 2 years ago, and so far it remains a requirement.) This will position the Fundamental SAR manual and FUNSAR training material for additional sales, and potentially open doors for the NASAR licensing program, etc.

B. This concept proposal includes 3 levels of providing for the MSAR market using the packaged material:

1. Sale of the MSAR package to anyone interested.

- Related income. Invest in the package so they don't need to design / modify their own training to meet ASTM standards.
- Users are self-certifying as meeting ASTM requirements.
- No certificate issued by NASAR, or records maintained, just product sales.

2. If a mounted rider is already on file as SARTECH II

- NASAR Certificate of Completion issued to the rider, based on local authorized management signature to indicate meeting the requirements indicated in the package.
- Related fees for product sales, Certificate of Completion, and appropriate records maintained by NASAR.

3. If that mounted rider is already on file as SARTECH II and wants to be recognized by NASAR regarding MSAR

- Issue a certificate indicating NASAR Mounted SARTECH II status (plus related NASAR MSAR patch)
- They pay for a NASAR MSAR evaluator, etc.
- Related fees for product sales, Certificate, patch, and appropriate records maintained by NASAR.

There is a very nominal MSAR program initial overhead for NASAR using this kind of approach, but it includes potential to tap a large portion of the MSAR market (unknown number) just in product sales. Follow-up on sales might develop more opportunities for NASAR licensing, etc. If the NASAR Board considers this a viable approach to reach out to the SAR community and provide for their needs while also addressing NASAR needs as an organization, consider applying the concepts to other programs.

**Attachment III  
Position Statement on PLB's**

TO: Megan Bartlett, Executive Director, NASAR

FROM: Leon C. Nelson 1129 Almond Ave. Redding, CA 96001 (530) 241-2185

[djnlcn@charter.net](mailto:djnlcn@charter.net)

RE: **NASAR Endorsement of PLB Rentals - Final upgrade of position statement submission**

Dear Megan,

I have upgraded, below, the position statement on "PLB rentals" that I request be put on the NASAR Board of Directors' agenda for consideration at their January 20-21 meeting.

Megan, please know how much I appreciate your taking time to assist me with this effort that's gained so much momentum, recently.

Thank you.

Very sincerely,  
Leon C. Nelson

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NASAR ENDORSEMENT OF PLB RENTALS WILL:

1. Provide incentives for more mountaineering-shops, outdoor-recreation, and sporting-goods retail stores to rent PLBs.
2. Allow guidelines to be developed, for companies that rent PLBs, resulting in uniformity and correct protocol being followed during the entire rental process.
3. Make PLBs more available for use by a greater number of people, primarily because rental charges are much more affordable than are the costs to own them.
4. Assure that the PLBs are correctly registered with NOAA and SARSAT, by the companies renting the devices.
5. Allow, encourage - and possibly even require - the rental companies to explain the proper and responsible use of the PLBs, resulting in fewer "false alarms."
6. Facilitate more efficient S&R by having valid identification, documented and kept by the rental companies, of the individuals renting the PLBs - including the number of people to whom each of the rented-PLBs is assigned - and the extent to which these groups or individuals are equipped with food, shelter, clothing, and survival gear.
7. Assure on-going registration of the PLBs, by the rental companies, as the PLBs must be re-registered every two years.
8. Assure satisfactory maintenance of the PLBs, by the rental companies, to be sure operative features of the PLBs are always fully functional.
9. Make it possible for all companies renting PLBs to maintain records on the battery life of all rented PLBs. This will virtually guarantee that all rented PLBs will have fresh batteries, as they must be replaced every five years at authorized PLB battery-eplacement centers.