



STATEMENT OF AFFILIATION
 BETWEEN
 THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
 AND NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE

The *Department of Homeland Security (DHS)* and the *National Association for Search and Rescue (NASAR)* view community safety and the principle of service to our country as top priorities for their respective organizations and for the American people. As such, our organizations have come together in partnership to provide mutual support for *Citizen Corps*.

Under the direction of *DHS*, *Citizen Corps* is a community-based initiative to engage all citizens in hometown security and community and family preparedness through public education and outreach, training opportunities, and volunteer programs. Programs under the *Citizen Corps* umbrella include federally sponsored programs and other activities that share the goal of helping communities prevent, prepare for, and respond to terrorism, crime, public health issues, and disasters of all kinds. It encourages all Americans to take an active role in building safer, stronger, and better-prepared communities, to include the critical steps on the DHS website, *Ready.gov*.

The *National Association for Search and Rescue* is a non-profit membership association dedicated to advancing professional, literary, and scientific knowledge in search and rescue and related fields. *NASAR* is comprised of thousands of paid and non-paid professionals interested in all aspects of search and rescue throughout the United States and around the world. *NASAR* has trained over 30,000 responders since 1989 utilizing its internationally respected SARTECH® Certification Program. *NASAR* is dedicated to ensuring that volunteers (non-paid professionals) in search and rescue are as prepared as the career public safety personnel (fire, law and emergency medical services) with whom they work on a daily basis.

DHS and *NASAR* agree to work in collaborative partnership to:

- Promote the formation and development of local *Citizen Corps Councils*;
- Increase awareness of search and rescue as a critical component in homeland security;
- Encourage all Americans, and particularly our youth, to actively engage in search and rescue as a means of supporting their local communities and demonstrating good citizenship;
- Increase awareness of *NASAR* as a resource for volunteer training in the field of search and rescue;
- Encourage *Citizen Corps* volunteers to supplement their emergency/disaster training with *NASAR*'s basic search and rescue training course;
- Publicly acknowledge the affiliation of *Citizen Corps* and *NASAR*, which may include website links, co-logos on publications, and references in printed materials, courses, and conferences;
- Coordinate their respective activities to further their shared mission; and
- Keep each other informed of activities conducted in support of *Citizen Corps* and provide an annual report summarizing those activities.

On this 2nd day of June 2004, we enter into this agreement in good faith and agree to pursue the shared mission outlined above.





C. SUZANNE MENCER
 DIRECTOR

OFFICE OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
 COORDINATION AND PREPAREDNESS
 DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY



RANDY SERVIS
 PRESIDENT

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE