



OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COMMANDER  
CIVIL AIR PATROL

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY  
Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama 36112-6332

14 May 2003

Lt Michael Tuttle  
President  
National Association for Search & Rescue, Inc.  
4500 Southgate Place, Suite 100  
Chantilly, Virginia 20151-1714

Dear Lt Tuttle:

This letter is to confirm the agreement discussed between your executive director and John Desmarais, our Chief of Emergency Services over the last few months. In short, Civil Air Patrol (CAP) and NASAR, Inc. agree to develop and implement plans for cooperation between NASAR and CAP in the promotion of education and training of emergency services personnel - specifically professional level search and rescue specialists.

The National Association for Search & Rescue, Inc., (NASAR) is a not-for-profit membership association dedicated to advancing professional, literary, and scientific knowledge in fields related to search and rescue. NASAR is comprised of thousands of paid and non-paid professionals interested in all aspects of search and rescue - the humanitarian cause of saving lives - throughout the United States and around the world. "...that others may live."

Civil Air Patrol is a charitable, not-for-profit, federally chartered corporation under 36 U.S.C. §§40301- 40307, and the volunteer civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force (USAF) when used to fulfill the noncombatant programs and missions of the Department of the Air Force under 10 U.S.C. §9442. One of CAP's principal functions is to provide an organization of private citizens with adequate facilities to assist in meeting local and national emergencies (36 U.S.C. §40302(4)), specifically including Homeland Security (HLS) - the primary motivation for the creation of Civil Air Patrol in 1941.

NASAR and CAP share a common concern for the future of search and rescue operations. Search and rescue operations are constantly changing, and our organizations both have a strong stake in making sure operations are conducted safely and effectively. Our cooperation provides an excellent opportunity to bolster individual efforts, achieve the common purpose, and facilitate quick implementation of our efforts. A mutually shared desire to provide high quality search and rescue training and responses across the nation presents the participants with the opportunity described herein.

Through this agreement, NASAR and CAP agree to work together in a manner consistent with law and not in violation of other agreements. We agree to:

- a. Appoint individuals and working groups at the national level to plan and accomplish direct coordination and expand opportunities in supporting efforts and programs designed to promote safe and effective emergency services operations in the United States,
- b. Encourage attendance of their members at meetings of the other organization to encourage mutual education and exchange of information on NASAR/CAP related activities, including the local unit level,

c. Provide for educational support for NASAR/CAP selected joint activities while exploring and developing opportunities that offer emergency services experience to NASAR and CAP members,

d. Support efforts to promote NASAR and CAP organizational goals for membership growth,

e. Maintain the highest level of commitment to programs that ensure safe, high quality, joint emergency services activities,

f. Share resources in such a manner that furthers the purpose of this agreement,

g. Provide NASAR and CAP members the opportunity to act as mentors for emerging emergency services units to enhance standardization and safety, and

h. Capitalize on opportunities to promote CAP and NASAR organizational awareness within the emergency services community and the general public.

To facilitate the implementation of this agreement, NASAR and CAP commit to the formation of a joint working group appointed by the NASAR Executive Director and CAP Executive Director. The working group will meet as needed but not less than annually. The working group is tasked with the responsibility of program development, review, evaluation and modification, as appropriate to achieve mutual goals.

This agreement becomes effective on the date of last signature below and continues for 5 years. It may be modified only by mutual written consent. Either party, upon a 30-day advance written notice to the other party, may terminate the agreement. At the conclusion of 5 years the parties will consider the development of a new agreement.

Sincerely,



RICHARD L. BOWLING  
Major General, CAP  
Commander

It is so agreed:



Lt Michael Tuttle, President  
NASAR

May 27, 2003

Date