



Girl Scouts®

STATEMENT OF AFFILIATION
BETWEEN
THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
AND GIRL SCOUTS OF THE USA

The *Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)* and *Girl Scouts of the USA* 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 *FEMA's Community Preparedness Division*, *Citizen Corps* is a community-based initiative to bring government and community leaders together to involve citizens and organizations in all-hazards emergency preparedness, planning, mitigation, response, and recovery. Established in the wake of the 9/11 tragedies, *Citizen Corps* encourages everyone in America to take an active role in building safer, stronger, and better prepared communities. Programs affiliated with *Citizen Corps* include federally sponsored programs and national nonprofit organizations that provide public education and outreach, training, exercises, and volunteer programs to strengthen community preparedness and resilience.

Girl Scouts of the USA is the world's preeminent organization dedicated solely to girls—all girls—where, in an accepting and nurturing environment, girls build character and skills for success in the real world. In partnership with committed adult volunteers, girls develop qualities that will serve them all their lives, like leadership, strong values, social conscience, and conviction about their own potential and self-worth. *Girl Scouts of the USA* was chartered by the United States Congress in 1950. Through membership in the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, *Girl Scouts of the USA* is part of a worldwide family of 10 million girls and adults in 145 countries. Girl Scouting builds girls of *courage, confidence, and character*, who make the world a better place.

Together *DHS FEMA* and *Girl Scouts of the USA* agree to work in a collaborative partnership to:

- Motivate young women to become leaders in their communities in the fields of emergency management and emergency response;
- Raise public awareness about personal preparedness, training, and volunteer service opportunities to support emergency services, disaster relief, and community safety;
- Encourage *Citizen Corps Councils* and *Girl Scout Councils* to work together on the shared mission of civic engagement and community resilience and to replicate successful local practices;
- Publicly acknowledge the affiliation of *Citizen Corps* and *Girl Scouts of the USA*, which may include website links, co-logos on publications, and references in printed materials; and,
- Keep each other informed of activities conducted in support of *Citizen Corps* and provide an annual summary of those activities.

On this 8th day of September 2009, all parties enter into this agreement in good faith and agree to pursue this effort as stated. Modifications may be made at any time with the written approval of both parties, and all terms and conditions will be reviewed and re-established in 3 years.



JANET NAPOLITANO

SECRETARY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

KATHY CLONINGER

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GIRL SCOUTS OF THE USA