

**ComCARE Board Resolution on EPAD and NEARS  
December 14, 2004**

*Whereas*, there is currently no accurate, comprehensive GIS and incident based electronic routing directory of all federal, state and local emergency response agencies in the U.S.;

*Whereas*, there is a significant and growing data component to emergency communications;

*Whereas*, there are approximately 100,000 jurisdictional entities with emergency responsibilities in America;

*Whereas*, ComCARE, with the assistance of others, has developed and designed a plan and prototype for a secure, shared, non-profit and non-proprietary Emergency Providers Access Directory (EPAD), containing full agency contact information, that will be made available to all qualified public and private emergency response providers in the nation;

*Whereas*, through the contributed expertise and time of DICE Corporation, ComCARE has a functioning prototype of EPAD for demonstration use;

*Whereas*, through the tireless efforts U.S. Senator Conrad Burns, there is a provision in a FY 2003 appropriations bill to fund the second phase of the EPAD project through the Office of Justice Programs;

*Whereas*, the ComCARE Alliance board of directors authorized ComCARE staff to proceed with an application in pursuit of the appropriated funds, and the ComCARE Alliance was awarded a grant to assist in the development of EPAD;

*Whereas*, the ComCARE Alliance board of directors resolved to authorize the ComCARE Alliance staff to conduct an RFP process for the development of EPAD;

*Whereas*, the ComCARE Alliance staff conducted a successful procurement and evaluation process, support by a team of outside experts;

*Whereas*, the ComCARE Alliance has developed the National Emergency Alerting and Response Systems Initiative (NEARS), as the next phase in moving EPAD forward;

*Therefore, be it resolved*, that the ComCARE staff is authorized to commit significant funds from the grant for the development of a production version of EPAD;

*Be it further resolved*, that the Board expresses its great appreciation for the past and on-going leadership of Clifford Dice and his company in implementing the E-Safety vision;

*Be it further resolved*, that ComCARE staff proceed with reaching agreements with emergency response organizations to become partners in the future development of EPAD and NEARS.