

Santa Cruz County CERT Auxiliary

Code of Conduct

Joining a CERT Team:

In CERT, there is a job for everyone, regardless of age*, gender, race, religion or disability. All who can successfully qualify for CERT are welcome to participate. Following the completion of the 21-hour Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training, you are eligible to join a team of similarly trained volunteers.

Age: Must be a minimum of 16 years of age. Persons under 18 must have signed parental permission to participate in CERT.

Code of Conduct:

As a member of Santa Cruz County CERT, you are a representative of the CERT program to new members, to the public, to our supporting agencies and to the people to whom we render our services. In this capacity, you must act with integrity.

- Treat everyone with respect and courtesy.
- Treat all property according to the rules of the law.
- Be sensitive to diversity of the team members and those we assist.
- Respect the privacy of persons served, and hold in confidence all sensitive, private and personal information.
- Self-deploy to an incident or scene outside immediate neighborhood only with proper authorization.
- Avoid unauthorized use of CERT logos
- Avoid use of CERT for personal gain.
- Avoid inappropriate public conduct that would discredit CERT.

Any illegal or improper conduct on the part of a member may be cause for termination from the program. The decision of your CERT Team Leader, Fire or Auxiliary Branch Manager and sponsoring agency will be immediate.

- Examples of inappropriate conduct: offensive behavior (actions, gestures, and words), impairment due to drunkenness or the influence of drugs or medications, misuse of social media concerning CERT, or jeopardizing anyone's safety.
- A dismissed CERT member may appeal the decision to the CERT Auxiliary Board of Directors.

After a member is removed, he or she must return the Santa Cruz County CERT vest and DSW Identification Badge.

I have read and understand the Santa Cruz County CERT Code of Conduct, and I agree to abide by the provisions during my affiliation as a Volunteer with any and all CERT Programs in Santa Cruz County.

Printed Name of CERT Member

Signature

Date