

CERT Auxiliary Working Group
Meeting Notes
[Saturday, August 14, 2021](#)

Attendees: Ed Spurr, Ken Braly, Sharon Spence, Rosemary Anderson, Dan Selling, Chris Jong, Catherine L. Green, Susan Marx, Josh Martin, Joyce Smith, David Sonnenberg, Jo Marie Faulkerson, Dawn Mackey, Doreen O'Donovan, Liz Taylor-Selling, Traci Takeuchi, and Mary Edmund

- Welcome & Announcements
 - No State-wide Medical Exercise this year--due to COVID -- normally we would participate with SCC Health Services Agency
 - Attached below are webinars and highlights from National CERT Association. So much available in webinars and summary of classes from this year's CERT National Conference.
 - Information on virtual Train the Trainer on Zoom. Class is 24 hours over 2 weeks. Starts 8/17 (11-3) or 9/21(9-1), 15-person limit.
 - Shelter Field Guide Training for State and Local Communities on zoom. Class is 10 hours over 2 days. Classes available monthly, January through June 2022.
 - Integrating Access and Functional Needs into Emergency Management, December 14-16.
 - CERT Conference for 2022 will be 5/30-6/1 in Galveston, TX. with preconference training from 5/27-29.
- Deputy – Rosemary Anderson: CERT Council met, discussion on voluntarism. Had not received response on new SOPs, re-sent. Concerns about connecting with Office of Response, Recovery and Resilience (OR3); Lots of retirements in Fire & Law.
- Operations/Logistics – Bill Monroe, absent, This month logistics and operations quiet.
- PIO – Traci Takeuchi: Needs clarity on how to sign up via Signup Genius. Joyce and Traci will talk off-line. Facebook old page(s) should be dis-ambiguated.
- Safety Officer – John Handley: absent
 - COVID-19, Delta variant in the United States for each case of COVID yields 5 more cases. In Santa Cruz, the rate is 2 cases for each case. The focus is now on prevention. People who are fully vaccinated against the coronavirus continue to have strong protection compared to those who aren't. Masks are recommended in SC County, but mandated at indoor events at UCSC. If exposed, quarantine 14 days. Third dose now authorized by FDA for those immunosuppressed, may receive it 28 days or more after the 2nd vaccine.
- Training
 - Basic – Joyce Smith: Phase 3 hands-on training scheduled for the weekends of 9/18-19 or 10/2-3 (similar to the Saturday PM of the pre-Covid Basic).
 - Continuing Education – Sept 30, 7pm on zoom platform "CERT and Fire Safe Council collaborative opportunity for community education.

- Reports/Ongoing Discussions
 - Branch/Team Activation Binders – Committee assembling the binder, gathering materials and will publish the forms and photos on-line. Ed Spurr is offering to provide branch and team staff with complete physical binders at no cost, but will require the following information. Leaders should provide:
 - A written request to capitolacert@gmail.com by Sept. 6th. with the number of copies requested;
 - Separate team and branch rosters with contact info, DSW numbers/date of expiration, special training--ARES,etc
 - Identify command and general staff with contact information;
 - Inventory basic/specific activation equipment/supplies and stored location; and
 - Identify potential command post sites.

The purpose of these requirements are to ensure binders are complete and up-to-date. The most important is the membership contact list and identifying the command structure.
 - Communications Committee -- Liz Selling: 1st goal, create a network of CERT team communicators should we need to communicate county-wide in a disaster situation. Mostly complete. Will now meet quarterly rather than monthly. Discussion on creating a roster of those assigned to each Branch and Team for inclusion in activation binders. Relationship between CERT hams and ARES is still a bit unclear. After Action Review from April 17 CERT and ARES exercise attached to last month's WG summary was approved.
- New Business
 - CERT and Firesafe Council have a number of shared interests, WG supports alliance. Needed are CERTs interested in helping with promotion and assisting neighborhoods to become fire safe.
 - Survey CERT Membership--email thoughts on questions to Certauxiliary@gmail.com
 - Branch & Team Shared Zoom Account for all CERT Leaders use. Contact: certauxiliary@gmail.com for log-in and password. Update on status TBD by Ken Braly and Takeuchi.
 - Continuing Education Credit for recorded trainings -- People using local CERT videos have asked about continuing education credit. Should that be offered, and if so, how much credit? Credit should be awarded. Ideas range from 4 hours to 8 hours. Lots of difference of opinion. Motion to accept Continuing Education credit on recorded zoom presentations of Auxiliary classes on the website through Branch and Team Leaders -- limited to 4 hours per 5 year period.
- Branch/Team Leader Reports
 - David Sonnenberg, Team Live Oak: no report
 - Liz Taylor-Selling, Team Leader Felton Area: Going back to the zoom platform. Discussed new policies. School district requested help, but declined for inappropriate use of CERTs outlined in new CERT SOP, but offered to help train volunteers for the task.
 - Doreen O'Donovan, Branch Leader Aptos: has not had a meeting in a long time. Remodeling is taking longer than expected.

- Dawn Mackey, Branch Leader Bonny Doon: having an actual in-person meeting with a review of the Head to Toe exam using a mannikin sanitized after each use.
- Susan Marx, Team Leader La Selva Beach: October bake sale, highly recommended taking the class “What to Do While You Wait for First Responders”.
- Catherine L. Green, City of Santa Cruz: at meeting discussed fire safety including, insurance, replacement vs. appraisal, duration of alternative housing. Transitions in Fire Chief. Interfaced with Team Rubicon helping uncover disaster access roads.

Next Meeting
September 11 from 10 to noon
On zoom platform.

Here is information regarding CERT related webinars.

Restart and Rejuvenate your CERT program after COVID-19 (9/28/21)

For anyone who missed this webinar or wanted to re-watch it, here is the link to the “Restart and Rejuvenate your CERT program after COVID-19” webinar: <https://fema.connectsolutions.com/p934tthlhsm/>.

Highlights from the 2021 National CERT Conference Webinar Series

The 2021 National CERT Conference had many great presentations, including several unique ones that I have never seen in a CERT conference. The State of California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) has partnered with FEMA Region II and the National CERT Association (NCA) to hold a mini webinar series to feature some of these great presentations (see attached flyer). Six presentations have been lined up so far and if this series is successful, we may run a part two series after. All webinars are free to attend, **times are noted in Eastern Standard Time**, and participants must register for each webinar separately. All webinars will be recorded and made available on FEMA's webinar website.

1. Tuesday, August 24, 2021 1:00pm to 2:30pm Eastern Time Zone
Developing and Organizing your CERT Team to the Max. Presented by Lisa Rubey (New Braunfels CERT). This session will discuss how to bring your CERT Team to the next level and maximize your CERT strengths.
Click here to register
- <https://fema.connectsolutions.com/certcon1/event/registration.html>
2. Wednesday, September 8, 2021, 1:00pm to 2:30pm Eastern Time Zone
Spontaneous Volunteers Lessons Learned in Argentina and Chile. Presented by Professor Duncan Shaw (Manchester University, UK) and Dr. Jenny Moreno (University of Concepcion, Chile). This talk will present the concepts of spontaneous volunteering, the process of planning for spontaneous volunteers as outlined in ISO22319, and case studies of implementing ISO22391 with governments in Chile and Argentina to create systems for involving spontaneous volunteers.
Click here to register
- <https://fema.connectsolutions.com/certcon2/event/registration.html>
3. Tuesday, Sept 21, 2021, 1:00pm to 2:30pm Eastern Time Zone
Disasterville. Presented by James Ray (Utah Division of Emergency Management). Disasterville is an out of the box idea that provides a fun interactive experience that CERT programs can use to strengthen community

buy-in, recruit for CERT training, refresh CERT skills and build stronger relationships between the public and professional first responders.

Click here to register

- <https://fema.connectsolutions.com/certcon3/event/registration.html>

4. Tuesday, Oct 12, 2021, 1:00pm to 3:00pm Eastern Time Zone
Search and Rescue, Lost Person Behavior. Presented by Dr. Robert Koester. Lost person behavior is the cornerstone of search and rescue efforts. Based upon a landmark study, Dr. Koester outlines a definitive guide to solving the puzzle of where a lost person might be found.

Click here to register

- <https://fema.connectsolutions.com/certcon4/event/registration.html>

5. Tuesday, Oct 26, 2021, 1pm to 2:30pm Eastern Time Zone
Maintaining and Revitalizing your CERT Program. Presented by Teresa Greenhalgh (San Diego County OES, CA). This presentation will share ideas and best practices for maintaining and revitalizing your CERT program.

Click here to register

- <https://fema.connectsolutions.com/certcon5/event/registration.html>

6. Tuesday, Nov 9, 2021, 1:00pm to 5:00pm Eastern Time Zone
Moulage, Bringing the Exercise to Life. Presented by Mae Kennedy (Moulage by Mae, Christian County CERT). This session will go over techniques to create realistic looking moulage to enhance CERT disaster simulations and exercises.

Click here to register

- <https://fema.connectsolutions.com/certcon6/event/registration.html>

FEMA Preparedness Webinars

Want more webinars? Click here to visit FEMA's Portal for Preparedness

Webinars: [Preparedness Webinars | FEMA.gov](#)

Previous Webinars

Here are previous webinars that Cal OES, FEMA, and the NCA has partnered with for those that missed it:

[The Past Present and Future of CERT](#) (5/14/21)

To honor the achievements of Frank Borden, FEMA Region 2 National Preparedness Division partnered with the State of California and the National CERT Association (NCA) to host a nationwide webinar on the *Past, Present and Future of CERT* (Community Emergency Response Team). Frank Borden led the creation of the CERT program in 1985, graduating the first class of community members in 1986. Borden is known as the "Father of CERT." This session includes presentations from FEMA and other CERT leaders on the current and future landscape of the CERT program.

Click here to view the webinar: <https://fema.connectsolutions.com/pd7a4717ia92/>

[CERT Best Practices: COVID-19 Vaccine POD Support](#) (2/19/21)

FEMA Region II's National Preparedness Division partnered with the National CERT Association to host a COVID-19 Vaccine POD support webinar. This webinar featured county logistic leads responsible for coordinating staffing support and CERT program managers who have been activated to support Vaccine PODs. This webinar is useful for anyone who is interested in supporting Vaccine PODs, including CERT program managers, CERT volunteers and other partners.

Click here to view the webinar: <https://fema.connectsolutions.com/pghs7tidfyzf/>

[CERT Disaster Response Best Practices](#) (9/24/2020)

The Region II National Preparedness Division in collaboration with the National Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Association held a webinar on CERT Disaster Response Best Practices. This webinar featured speakers from CERT programs across the country who have deployed to disasters.

Click here to view the webinar: <https://fema.connectsolutions.com/p3lootgl33tx/>

CERT & Communities



FEMA is excited to introduce CERT Train-the-Trainer in a virtual format. By delivering this course virtually, the Agency hopes to reach new audiences and bolster the capabilities of existing

CERT teams. Furthermore, FEMA is pleased to offer additional opportunities to enroll virtual course on sheltering operations.

Explore these two free courses, offered through FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI). The courses will be delivered completely online via [Adobe Connect](#). There is no cost associated with either course, but students must have a FEMA Student Identification number (SID), a computer with microphone, speaker, and stable access to the internet. Visit the [FEMA Student Identification System](#) to obtain the FEMA SID number.

K0428 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Train-the-Trainer (Virtually Facilitated)

The audience for this course includes those who will have or currently have either of the following responsibilities: Serves as the course manager for the CERT Basic Training course, or serves as a CERT Basic Training course instructor.

Participants in this course must have:

1. A referral from a CERT-sponsoring agency, typically a local, regional, or state government agency.
2. Completed the CERT Basic Training, required if you are not a first responder.
3. Completed the [IS-317: Introduction to CERT](#), if you are a current first responder. This course will familiarize you with the CERT Program.

Course Length: Total Time: 24 hours over 2 weeks, and 4 hours of self-study. Class Time: 24 hours (ET).

Course Dates:

- August 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26 [2 pm - 6 pm ET]
- September 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30 [12 pm - 4 pm ET]

Allotted time for technical difficulties (2 hours)

K0419 Shelter Field Guide Training for State and Local Communities (Virtually Facilitated)

This course was developed by the American Red Cross and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to train participants in sheltering practices and techniques. It is designed for use with its companion piece, the Shelter Field Guide. There are no prerequisites for this course.

Course Length: Total Time: 10 hours over 2 days. Class Time: 8 hours (ET).

Course Dates:

Month	Course Dates	Last Day to Register
January	19, 20: 11am-4pm	December 31, 2021
	25, 26: 12-5pm	January 5, 2022
February	16, 17: 11am-4pm	January 27, 2022
	22, 23: 12-5pm	February 2, 2022
March	23, 24: 11am-4pm	March 2, 2022
	29, 30: 12-5pm	March 2, 2022
April	20, 21: 11am-4pm	March 31, 2022
	26, 27: 12-5pm	April 6, 2022
May	18, 19: 11am-4pm	April 28, 2022
	24, 25: 12-5pm	May 3, 2022
June	21, 22: 11am-4pm	June 1, 2022
	29, 30: 12-5pm	June 7, 2022

Allotted time for technical difficulties (2 hours)

To Apply:

Prospective students for both courses should apply through the [Emergency Management Institute's online admissions system](#).

[View online](#)

Course: Integrating Access and Functional Needs Into Emergency Management

Dates: December 14 - 16, 2021

Locations: Virtual Course

EMPG Funded Course: Must Meet Enrollment Qualifications.

Integrating Access and Functional Needs Into Emergency Management (G197): This course is intended to provide Emergency Managers/Responders with the skills and knowledge to plan, prepare, respond, and recover for those who have Disabilities and Access and Functional Needs during a disaster.

Topics discussed:

- Whole Community Planning
 - Shelter Operations
- Transportation and Evacuation Issues
- Communication and Alert Messages
 - Long Term Recovery

Course Length: 12 hours

Course Code: G197-2-21

CA-Approval: CA-056-RESP

Register for CSTI Courses: Visit the Learning Management System and create an account. Click the green "Register" button located on the center of the screen, and follow the on-screen instructions to set up your account.

Browse for training: Login to the Learning Management System. On the top menu bar select "CSTI Courses" then "Browse for Training" and search or filter results to find available courses.