

SACRAMENTO FIRE CERT

For an application to join the CERT Chaplaincy program please contact the SFD CERT Volunteer Manager at 916-747-7202

You will receive information and registration materials either in the mail or by email. You may also visit our website for more information. Sacramento CERT website. www.sacramentocert.net

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. What is a City CERT Chaplain?

A: A CERT member is a person who is trained to prepare for and respond after a disaster in their neighborhood or workplace. A group of members of a neighborhood, apartment complex, business or similar residential area comprise a team. Even if you are not affiliated with a team you can still serve

Because law enforcement and the fire department both have chaplains for their professional first responders the CERT program needs chaplains to tend to the needs of their volunteers both in a disaster situation and a non-disaster situation. As a result we have started the

Sacramento Fire Department CERT Chaplaincy Corps. Currently we are the only CERT team in this region to have our own CERT Chaplaincy Program

Q. Who may join Sacramento CERT Chaplain program?

A. *Anyone who is an ordained minister, priest, or rabbi; a volunteer minister for their church, or a minister of a church that does not ordain ministers.*

Q. Do I have to prove I am eligible?

A. *Yes. You must provide either a certificate of ordination, a certificate from a church with volunteer ministers or two letters from the board of a church that does not ordain ministers.*

Q. Where can I learn more information about the CERT program itself?

A. *For information about the CERT training schedules and other information relevant to the program, please visit the CERT website at www.sacramentocert.net or contact the phone number listed on the cover of this brochure*

Q. What does CERT training cost?

A. *CERT training is free to residents who reside or work in the City of Sacramento*

Additional CERT resources information about the National CERT program and links to other CERT sites can be found at the Sacramento Regional Citizens Corp Council website at www.srccc.org



COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM Sacramento City Fire Department CERT Chaplaincy Program



Email: Sacramentocert@comcast.net
www.sacramentocert.net

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CERT FAX: 916-323-7675

THE COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM program (CERT) is designed to prepare you to help yourself, your family and your neighbors in the event of a catastrophic disaster.

Following a major disaster, first responders who provide fire and medical services will not be able to meet the demand for these services. Number of victims, communication failures and road blockages will prevent people from accessing emergency services they have come to expect at a moment's notice through the 9-1-1 system. People will have to depend on each other for help in order to meet their immediate life saving and life sustaining needs.

This training program provides for community self-sufficiency through the development of multifunctional response teams who will act as an adjunct to local emergency services during major disasters. Through this unique program, people from community organizations, business and industry, and government employee groups will become members of CERT or perform as individual leaders by directing untrained volunteers during the initial phase of an emergency.



Through training, citizens will be able to treat the three main killers of disaster victims by learning to open airways, control bleeding and treat for shock. They will also learn to manage utilities and put out small fires, safely search for and rescue victims, provide basic medical aid and organize themselves and spontaneous volunteers to be an effective team.

CERT members receive 24 hours of initial training (one night a week for 7 weeks, plus a Saturday morning drill). Continuing education programs which include Red Cross classes, Wildland Urban Fire Interface, Haz-Mat awareness, Flood and Swift Water awareness and more follow the 7 week course if people choose to go farther and take more training.

Disaster preparedness and hazard mitigation can minimize the effects of a disaster and facilitate recovery. The benefits of this program are numerous and invaluable. It teaches skills people can use in their day to day lives, enhance the bond between government and community, increase community spirit and improve the quality of life for the people of this community, and increase overall disaster preparedness.

CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The purpose of the Chaplains Corps is to provide non denominational, non sectarian support in times of emergency and crisis to CERT trained personnel only, and will be available to assist others if assigned by an Incident Commander.

In a non-disaster situation CERT chaplains are available to any Sacramento CERT member at any time if CERT member needs their services for visitation or ill members, a family death or crisis or other event that may arise.

Unless a CERT chaplain has also obtained the other levels of training for deployment as a regular CERT member, they will be deployed only as a Chaplain and will work primarily within the CERT staging area, unless services are needed or required elsewhere as determined by the Incident Command.

CERT chaplains will be readily identifiable by SACRAMENTO CERT CHAPLAIN on the back on their vests and Black uniform shirts.

Membership is open to any CERT trained person who is either: 1) an ordained minister, priest or rabbi; 2) a non-ordained volunteer minister associated with a church, or 3) a minister or chaplain from a church that does not ordain their ministers. The CERT member must provide either a credential or letters from their church. CERT trained members from any denomination are welcome to be a part of this group.