

National CERT Association Newsletter

Issue # 1, Fall 2021



Missouri State
Governor,
Mike Parsons, at the
2021 National CERT
Conference



National CERT Association Newsletter

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Table of Contents

(Click a section name to jump to the page)

- General NCA Updates 3-6
- FEMA Updates 7
- 2021 National CERT Conference Highlights 8-11
- Program Highlights 12-21
- CERT Spotlight 22-23
- Upcoming FEMA Webinars 24-30
- NCA Webinars 31-34
- NCA Partners and Sponsors 35-36
- Did You Know? 37-38
- NCA Contact Info 39

NCA Updates

First NCA National CERT Conference

Galveston, Texas



Date: June 2 - 4, 2022
(Preconference Training May 30 - June 1)

For more Information about the National CERT Conference, sign up here:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2022NationalCERTConferenceEmailList>

NCA Updates

Election Announcement

Here are the upcoming annual elections for the National CERT Association Board of Directors. This year's election will include:

- One Regional Representative for each Region (Seat A) totaling 10 positions
- One Member-at-Large seat for subject matter experts in "FEMA CERT Guidance"
- Two newly added Member-at-Large seats to the Board of Directors subject matter experts in "CERT Volunteers Support." Please note that these two positions are only eligible to persons who do not receive financial compensation for their CERT related activities.

Self-nominations are being accepted at this time. Please do not nominate someone else.

You can find the official Election Notice here: <https://nationalcert.org/events/election-notice>

A complete nomination must be submitted by 7:00 p.m. EDT, Friday, August 27, 2021 and will include at least one letter of recommendation and completion of one of three nomination forms included here:

- Regional Representative - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021NCARegionalRep>
- Member-at-Large (Associations SME) - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021NCAAtLargeAssociationsSME>
- Member-at-Large (Volunteer SME) - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021NCAAtLargeVolunteerSME>

2023 National CERT Conference

The NCA is accepting applications from affiliated organizations or state coordinators that wish to host the 2023 National CERT Conference.

Please contact Vice-President, James Cunningham via email at Jamie@nationalcert.org for more information.

NCA Updates

NCA Charter Member

During the NCA leadership meeting at the 2021 National CERT conference, the NCA leadership voted to extend the deadline for Charter Membership. Originally, members joining on or before the end of the 2021 National CERT Conference would be NCA Charter Members. The voted extended this to the first 2,000 members that join the NCA.

NCA Charter Member Challenge Coin

NCA members that joined on or before July 17, 2021 would receive the NCA Charter Member Challenge coin with their membership number engraved. Charter members (first 2,000 members) that joined after July 18, 2021 can purchase the NCA Charter Membership Coin for \$15 (cost of the coin and USPS Priority shipping). NCA members will receive information about this after joining.



NCA ID Card

NCA members that join or renew their membership after July 18, 2021 will receive the NCA ID Card.

The NCA ID Card was developed in partnership with Merit and will feature a QR code that can be used with Merit's Check-in Tool and Look-up Tool.



NCA Updates

Merit Check-in Tool

Merit's Check-in Tool allows organizations to track their member's activities. The Check-in tool will be used at National CERT Conferences and other NCA events and activities.

Merit Look-up Tool

Merit's Look-up Tool allows organizations to look up the digital badges that a person have received within the Merit app. The NCA is working with Merit to use this feature to support the integration of CERT via credentialing programs and members in the National Response Framework.

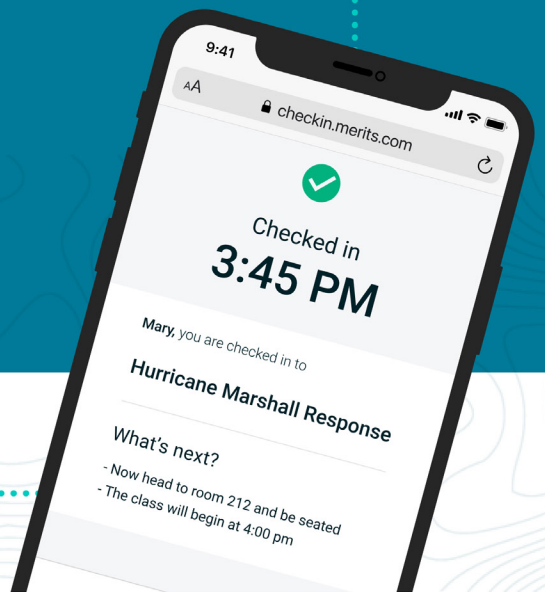
The NCA ID card was piloted during the 2021 National CERT Conference. Roughly 100 new and existing NCA members received their ID card during the event. The NCA ID card will be rolled out to other NCA members in September, 2022.

NCA members that joined before July 18, 2021 and wish to receive their NCA ID card before their membership renewal can do so for \$15. Members will receive an email about this when the ID cards are rolled out in September.

More life-saving work with less paperwork.

Streamline verified time-tracking for maximum FEMA reimbursement.
Get started merits.com/ready.

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FEMA Updates

- Currently the 2019 CERT Train-the-Trainer and CERT Program Manager materials are available in English, Spanish, and Mandarin (Spanish and Mandarin are available on the NCA Resource library for State and Territory and FEMA CERT Coordinators). FEMA is hoping to have these materials translated into additional languages in 2022, including Vietnamese and Korean.
- Remember to update your CERT Program registration at <https://community.fema.gov/PreparednessCommunity/s/welcome-to-cert>. If programs need help logging in please email fema-prepare@fema.dhs.gov.

FEMA releases Resource Typing for CERT

FEMA has released [National Qualification System \(NQS\)](#) Job Titles/Position Qualifications and Position Task Books (PTBs) for three CERT positions:

- [CERT Team Leader](#) - a volunteer part of a CERT who directs team activities
- [CERT Chief](#) - a volunteer who is responsible for a specific functional area within the CERT
- [CERT Volunteer](#) - a volunteer who is a part of a CERT and trains in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization and disaster medical operations

These resource typing documents will facilitate the sharing of deployable CERT positions at all jurisdictional levels.

[Click here to download the position task books](#)

[Click here to download the Job Titles and Position Qualifications](#) (type CERT in the search box)

If the links above don't work, NCA members with program manager permissions can download the files here: [NCA Resources](#)

2021 National CERT Conference Highlights

The 2021 National CERT Conference just concluded, and wow what an event! Planning for this event started in 2017 after the Missouri team got the green light from FEMA HQ to host the 2020 National CERT conference in Missouri. The pandemic pushed the conference back a year and in 2021 the Missouri team delivered one of the best training events of the year.

The biggest highlight for many of the conference attendees is likely to be the Missouri State Governor showing up during the opening plenary. This is a huge milestone and the first time a sitting Governor has spoken at a National CERT Conference since at least 2010 and possibly ever. Kudos to the conference planning team for making this happen.

Governor Mike Parson spoke during the opening plenary, highlighting the important work that CERT teams were doing in Missouri, especially in supporting COVID19 response and recovery efforts. After speaking for roughly 20 minutes, the governor worked the room and took pictures with many of the attendees.

You can view the pictures that the governor's photography team took at the event here: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/govmikeparson/albums/72157719553808571>.



2021 National CERT conference:
Missouri Governor Mike Parson
meeting with attendees



2021 National CERT Conference Highlights

Presentations and Training

National Conferences are able to offer a slew of presentations and training that is normally not available locally. Two such sessions include:

- Spontaneous Volunteer Lessons Learned in Argentina and Chile – Professors Duncan Shaw (Manchester University, England) and Jenny Moreno (University of Concepcion, Chile) talks about their lessons learned with their work in Chile and Argentina around spontaneous volunteer management. Duncan wrote the ISO (International Organization for Standardization) for Spontaneous Volunteer Management and led the team that worked with the Chilean and Argentinian government on their country plan.
- Lost Person Behavior – Author Dr. Robert Koester talks about the behavior of Lost Persons. Dr. Koester talks about subject categories, behavioral profiles, up to date statistics, suggested initial tasks, and investigative questions. Insights from this presentation is invaluable for search and rescue teams as the first 24-48 hours during a missing persons incident are the most crucial.

Bummed you missed out on these great presentations? Don't worry. The National CERT Association has partnered with FEMA Region II to host a "Highlights from the Conference" webinar series. Starting August 24th, 2021, select presentations, including the two listed above, will be delivered via webinar for a national audience.

FEMA, Cal OES, and the National CERT Association Presents Highlights from the 2021 National CERT Conference

The FEMA Region 2 National Preparedness Division is partnering with the State of California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), and the National CERT Association (NCA) to host a nationwide series highlighting unique presentations from the 2021 National CERT Conference. This webinar series is free and will be recorded and archived on the FEMA Region 2 website. Please register for each presentation separately.

Date and Time	Presentation	Registration Link
Tuesday, Aug 24, 2021 1pm-2:30pm ET	Developing and Organizing your CERT Team to the Max. Presented by Lisa Rubey (New Braunsfel CERT). This session will discuss how to bring your CERT Team to the next level and maximize your CERT strengths.	https://fema.connetsolutions.com/certcon1/event/registration.html

More information about this webinar series can be found on [page 31](#) of this newsletter.

2021 National CERT Conference Highlights



2021 National CERT conference: Christina Boyd from Dalton, Georgia Emergency Management traded for these items during the conference

Networking and Partnerships

The biggest benefit of attending a National CERT Conference, is the networking and idea sharing. CERT conferences are quite different from other conferences, such as emergency management conferences. Everyone is much more friendly and are more actively looking to learn, share, and collaborate with people they meet. Several attendees were on the hunt to exchange patches and challenge coins. Many participants met with other attendees from their State, often meeting each other for the first time. Several States also held impromptu meetings to discuss creating a State CERT Association. We are happy to see that the State of Missouri will be creating a State CERT Association!

National CERT Association Highlights

While this conference was not a NCA Conference, there was still quite a NCA presence at the conference.

NCA ID Card – NCA members attending the conference, including over 100 conference attendees that signed up during the conference, received their NCA ID Card. This ID card, in partnership with Merit, features a QR code that will display any FEMA CERT Credentials achieved. The ID card will also be used for check-in at the 2022 National CERT Conference.

2021 National CERT Conference Highlights

QuickSeries Partnership

QuickSeries, best known for their pocket guides, signed a partnership agreement with the NCA during the conference. The partnership will allow the NCA to provide input on QuickSeries products that CERT programs are likely to purchase. This includes the CERT Field Operations Guide (FOG).

The CERT FOG(QuickSeries version) was originally developed as a product for the State of California. The California CERT Advisory Group worked with Quickseries to create the FOG and QuickSeries continues to sell this product to CERT programs nationwide. With the new partnership, the NCA will review the current CERT FOG and provide updates if necessary. The NCA will also provide photos from CERT programs across the nation for an updated version of the CERT FOG (currently the photos are mostly from California CERT programs).

The NCA is also exploring the creation of a companion FOG. The current CERT FOG features the activities and skills taught during the CERT Basic Class. The companion FOG will feature activities and skills that CERT volunteers are typically tasked with during disaster deployment. This would likely include items such as FEMA Forms, Mass Care and Feeding, Donations Management, Shelter Operations, Emergency Operations Center Support, Traffic Control, Radio Communications, etc. If this FOG is created, it will likely be available sometime early 2022.

QuickSeries will give the NCA a small commission on select items that are sold as part of this partnership. Prices will not be increased for the customer due to this partnership.

Quantity Discounts

One of the biggest issues with local program purchasing is not being able to leverage quantity discounts. Most vendors offer price breaks at various purchase quantities. During the conference, the NCA spoke with vendors to discuss how to remedy this. We are proud to announce that two vendors, QuickSeries and ProPac, have agreed to work with the NCA to figure out a way for all CERT purchases within a time period to be aggregated for quantity discounts. More information will be shared about quantity discounts once the details and process has been worked out.

Program Highlights



Southern Marin CERT: New CERT volunteers being sworn in

Thrilled To Be Back In Person!

Submitted by: Wendy Coblentz

Editor: Sandra Firpo

After a hiatus, thanks to the COVID Pandemic, the Southern Marin CERT Program in Mill Valley, California, took the plunge to offer residents a Hybrid CERT Course.

28 students attended the course, with 30 CERT volunteer instructor/mentors enthusiastically guiding them through the CERT curriculum. The in-person training exercises were done outdoors on May 15, 2021 at the Mill Valley Community Center, with all students and instructors wearing masks and gloves.

One of the Southern Marin CERT instructors expressed the sentiment shared by many at their hands-on training, "We were thrilled to be back in person. The day was very productive and successful."

According to Wendy Coblentz, a member of the Southern Marin CERT Steering Committee, "the in-person hands-on class response was very positive and people really appreciated the opportunity to interact, even with strict health and safety protocols."

Support of the hands-on training day was provided by Mill Valley Fire, Mill Valley Police, Bolinas Fire, and many terrific CERT volunteers.

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Program Highlights

Although the pandemic put a temporary hold on their CERT basic training, the Southern Marin CERT team was quite active over the past 18 months, delivering meals in the community, working the call center of the community help-line, supporting cooling centers during two separate heat waves, and volunteering at Vaccine Clinics.

Southern Marin CERT will be offering their next hands-on training on July 17, 2021 for a whole new group of CERT students.



Southern Marin CERT: Teamwork at Cribbing station



Southern Marin CERT: Fire extinguisher and fire suppression station

Program Highlights

Building a Capital CERT Program!

Topic and photos submitted by: Premkumar Jogi

Written by: NCA Staff Editor

On June 12, 2021 the District of Columbia CERT Program added 22 new members to its fold. DC CERT held its Hybrid CERT Training with weekly virtual meetings followed by an in-person hands-on exercise.

DC CERT added CPR/AED/First Aid training for their CERT students, and the hands-on training of those skills also took place during the all-day exercise.

Dedicated volunteers are the heart of any CERT program, and that is certainly the case with DC CERT.

CERT students and CERT Exercise Evaluators interacted through the three rounds of assessments in which the students participated:

- Written Test
- CPR / AED / FA Training and Evaluation
- Skills and techniques practice and performance (individually and/or in teams)

CERT Specialist Prem Jogi said, "These knowledge and skills are vital when responding to their community's immediate needs in the aftermath of a disaster when emergency services are not immediately available."

This class started on April 26th, and their efforts culminated in a graduation after the exercise on June 12th.



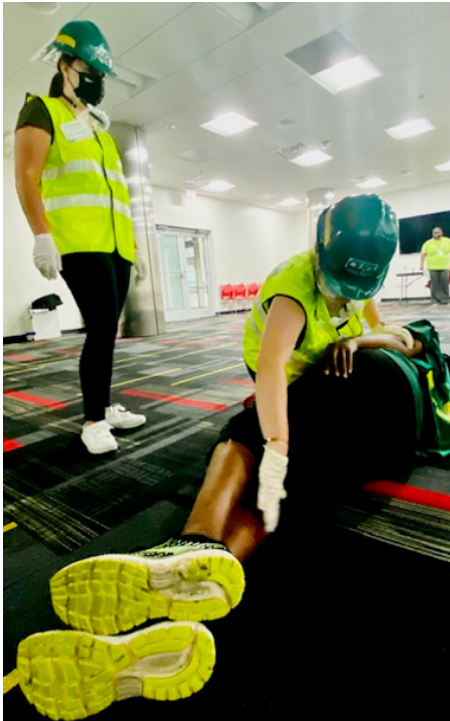
DC CERT: Teamwork in Head-to-Toe Assessment



DC CERT Skill Station: Opening the Airway

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Program Highlights



DC CERT: (Left)
Head-to-Toe assessment
(Right) CPR Skills



DC CERT Exercise Evaluators: Left to Right - Warren Brown (DC CERT); Frances Whalen (DC CERT); Deborah McGhee (Alexandria CERT); Marjorie Windelberg (Alexandria CERT); Prem Jogi (DC CERT); Jason Anthony (DC CERT).

Program Highlights

Westlake High School CERT Perseveres Through COVID Challenges

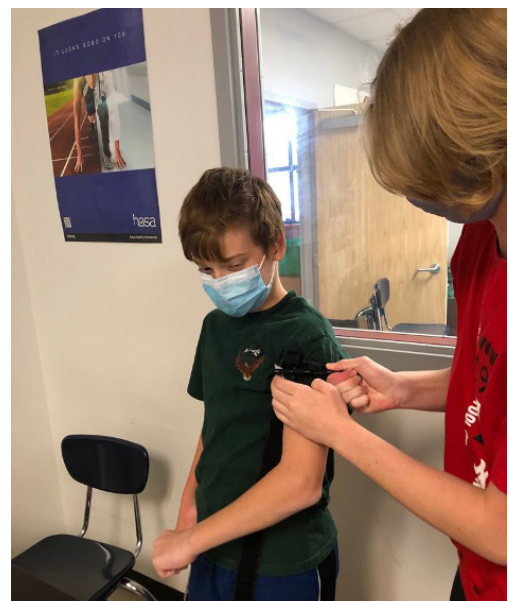
Submitted by: Jackie Uselton

Written by: Editorial Team

Despite the challenges of COVID-19, Westlake High School CERT (Austin, TX) continued to have a busy year of training. During the 2020-2021 school year, 48 students completed the CERT Basic course as well as CPR and Stop the Bleed Training.

While our class took many of the normal COVID precautionary protocols such as sitting 6 feet apart, wearing masks, and using hand sanitizer when entering the room, we also had to modify several activities for safety. We watched videos on how to perform the lifts and carries with each other instead of practicing on one another. When we taught CPR, we used the hands only method and then taught students how to use the bag valve mask (BVM) for breathing without having to take off the mask when doing 2-person CPR.

The students that completed this year's CERT training still did the same basic things, although with less interactions with one another, and we supplemented training by doing more table top exercises and discussions. It may not have been as fun for the students as it has been in past years, but the training kept their attention as shown by them asking excellent questions.



Westlake High School: CERT training for students

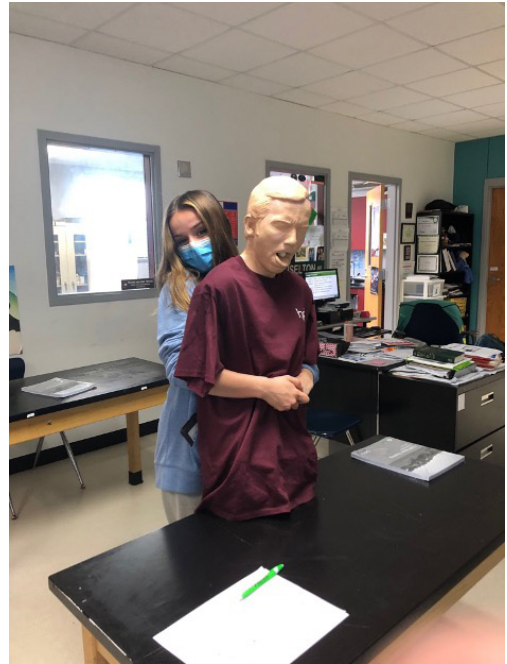
Program Highlights

We brought in guest speakers for Fire Safety, Terrorism Awareness, Disaster Psychology units and had a Zoom session with a HAM Radio Operator. The Amateur Radio Operator encouraged the students to get licensed and shared opportunities for college scholarships with them.

The students were also able to play Ready to Help, a card game developed by FEMA, in small groups with masks on. The students also performed independent study courses including FEMA EMI's training IS-100, IS-200, IS-240, and IS-241.

Despite the challenges of COVID, we felt that it was important to continue to provide this training to the next generation of citizen responders because this training is even more valuable now than ever. The students learned about preparing, self-care, caring for others in their community, and how to assist professional responders.

The program is offered as a single semester course for high school credit through the Texas Education Agency and has been around for the past 8 years. The class is offered 5 days a week for fifty minutes per day and is taught by either a certified Health Science or Criminal Justice teacher. Westlake High School also has a club that meets twice a month to keep students engaged in activities, events, exercises, and drills.



Westlake High School: CERT training for students

Program Highlights

Milton Township CERT Wins Wheaton, Illinois' Good Citizenship Award

By: Dee Lehrman

On May 17, 2021, The Milton Township CERT (Du Page County, Illinois) was named a Group Category recipient of the Wheaton's Good Citizen Award. The certificate was presented to the Team during our monthly leadership meeting. Our Team was also recognized during the Wheaton City Council meeting.

Part of the reason our team was awarded was three specific incidents where we deployed. Thirty volunteers responded in May 2020 to help search for a young person who fell into The West Branch of the Du Page River. Next, in the Fall of 2020, 25 volunteers responded to search for a missing person in Waterfall Glen Forest Preserve. This search continued for 10-hours in 80-degree weather. Finally, in March 2021, the CERT team responded to a motorcycle / car accident on a busy road. CERT Members helped re-direct traffic away from the accident, thus freeing Wheaton Police officers to continue with their regular duties.



Milton Township CERT: Illinois' Good Citizenship Award



Milton Township CERT

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Program Highlights



Milton Township CERT

Milton Township is located in Du Page County, Illinois, serves all or part of nine cities, towns and villages and eleven unincorporated towns. Since the Milton Township CERT team was formed in 2004, we have trained over 1,200 community members and the Program has grown through intergovernmental agreements that allows the team to respond to any need in Du Page County.

On behalf of our leadership team, we are humbled and honored by the recognition for doing what we love to do – supporting the communities in which we live.



Program Highlights

Livonia CERT: A Shot In The Arm for their Community

Topic and photos submitted by: Cheryl Nadratowski

Written by: NCA Editorial Staff

When the COVID-19 vaccines received emergency approval for use in the United States, the question was, how to get those vaccines out to people in communities across the country?

For the city of Livonia, Michigan, the answer was Livonia CERT. Volunteers worked alongside the Livonia Fire Department, city staff, and Livonia Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Director Brian Kahn, at community vaccination clinics.



Livonia CERT: Some of the Livonia CERT members at one of the vaccination sites



Livonia CERT: Wayne County Commissioner Terry Marecki visited one of the vaccination sites and thanked CERT volunteers for their vital work.

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Program Highlights

For 13 weeks, CERT volunteers adjusted their daily lives to help keep vaccination clinics running. 18,000 local residents received the vaccine thanks to the efforts of these dedicated individuals.

The CERT volunteers were personally thanked by Livonia Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan, Wayne County Commissioner Terry Marecki, and Michigan Congress member Haley Stevens during visits to the vaccination sites.



Livonia CERT: Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan also stopped by a vaccination site to see the great work being done by CERT volunteers.

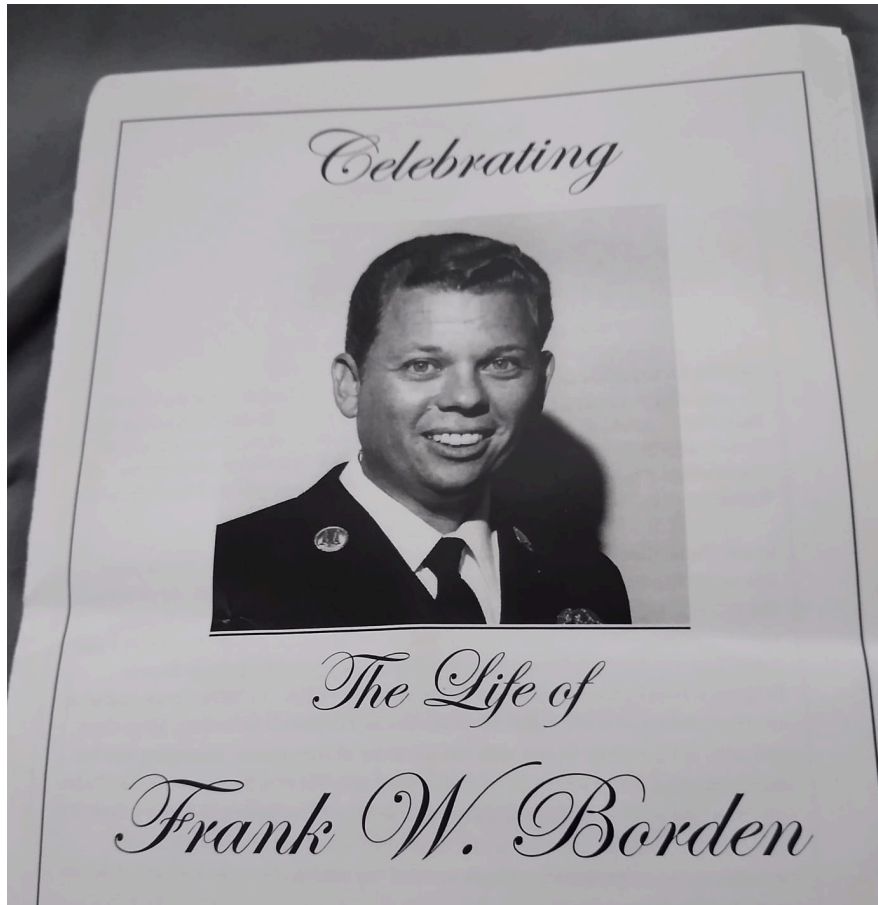


Livonia CERT: Michigan Congress member Haley Stevens, and Livonia Fire Chief Heavener at yet another vaccination site where Livonia CERT members were staffing.

CERT Spotlight – Frank Borden, the Father of CERT

LAFD Assistant Chief (ret.) Founder and “Father of CERT”

- Written by: Carolyn O Burlison, (ret.) LAFD CERT Central Bureau Coordinator



Los Angeles Fire Department Assistant Chief (ret.) Frank Borden was one of the nicest people who ever walked planet Earth. His leadership advanced Not only the Los Angeles Fire Department, but also left his imprint on the state, the nation and the entire world stage.

Frank's dedication was instrumental in the establishment of the Incident Command System (ICS) now a national standard, the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) now an international program, MySafeLA with a focus upon young children and senior citizens, as well as the LAFD Historical Society. I'm sure there is much more that I'm not aware of.

CERT Spotlight – Frank Borden, the Father of CERT



Frank Borden receiving the Los Angeles Fire Department Lifetime Achievement Award

It was through the CERT Program that I came to know him. This great program engages communities world-wide to prepare for disasters and train it's members on how to assist their neighbors until the First Responders arrive. His approachable, compassionate manner is what impressed me most.

He attended all CERT Conferences and mingled with CERT volunteers to encourage us.

Chief Borden and I were invited to present at the CERT conference in Chile, but neither of us were able to make the trip. So we sent a video about the [History of Los Angeles CERT Program](#) instead.

LAFD retired Assistant Chief Borden has earned his Angel's wings! What a legacy he has left for us to carry on! The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program, has had far reaching impact upon communities around the globe and will continue to grow! Rest easy Assistant Chief. We will take it from here.

My deepest condolences to Frank's family. May God bless and comfort you.



Frank Borden at the CERT 30th Anniversary National CERT Conference in Los Angeles, CA

Upcoming FEMA Webinars

[Click here to keep up to date with and register for FEMA webinars](#)

(All times in Eastern. Click an event listing to jump to the page)

- **Back to School: COVID-19 Preparedness and Helping Young Children Transition** — Wednesday, August 18th, 2021, 12:00pm - 01:00pm Eastern 25
- **Lo que debe conocer acerca de la Asistencia para Gastos Fúnebres por COVID-19 Agosto**
— Jueves 19 de Agosto de 2021 10:00am - 11:00am hora el este 25
- **Ready Seniors Virtual Workshop**
— Wednesday, August 25th, 2021, 1:00pm - 4:00pm Eastern 26
- **Preparedness Bingo**
— Wednesday, September 1st, 2021, 12:00pm to 1:00pm Eastern 27
- **Exploring the “Guides to Expanding Mitigation”: Agriculture Industry**
— Wednesday, September 1st, 2021, 12:00pm to 12:30pm Eastern 27
- **Remain Vigilant: The History of CISA and Resources to Keep you Safe**
— Thursday, September 9th, 2021, 01:00pm - 02:00pm Eastern 28
- **Exploring the “Guides to Expanding Mitigation”: Zombie Apocalypse Guide and Cemeteries Guide**
— Wednesday, October 6th, 2021, 12:0pm - 12:30pm Eastern 28
- **Exploring the “Guides to Expanding Mitigation”: Communications Systems Guide** — Wednesday, November 3rd, 2021, 12:00pm - 12:30pm Eastern 29
- **You Are the Help Until Help Arrives November**
— Thursday, November 18th, 2021, 12:0pm - 02:00 PM Eastern 29
- **Exploring the “Guides to Expanding Mitigation”: Codes and Standards Guide**
— Wednesday, December 1st, 2021, 12:00pm - 12:30pm Eastern 30

Upcoming FEMA Webinars

Back to School: COVID-19 Preparedness and Helping Young Children Transition

- *Wednesday, August 18th, 2021, 12:00pm - 01:00pm Eastern*

Please join the Region 2 National Preparedness Division for a webinar on back-to-school preparedness during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Transitioning back to early childhood programs or school— or starting them for the first time—can create extra challenges during a pandemic. Angelika Claussen, Research Psychologist with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), will describe what early childhood care and education program administrators, teachers, and parents can do to help children make a successful transition to in-person learning and care. Glen Karpovich, Emergency Management Specialist of the Region 2 Administration for Children and Families (ACF) will discuss how to prepare students for returning to the classroom in a COVID-19 environment.

Registration: https://femacqpub1.connectsolutions.com/content/connect/c1/7/en/events/event/shared/148225860/event_registration.html?sco-id=203150387

Lo que debe conocer acerca de la Asistencia para Gastos Fúnebres por COVID-19 Agosto

- *Jueves 19 de Agosto de 2021 10:00am - 11:00am hora el este*

La Division de Preparación Nacional de la Region 2 en colaboración con la Division de Asistencia Individual, les invita a participar del seminario virtual sobre el programa de FEMA de asistencia para gastos fúnebres por COVID-19.

FEMA reconoce el impacto financiero y las dificultades que esta pandemia ha provocado en las familias y está dispuesta a ayudar con las necesidades financieras. El 12 de abril, FEMA comenzó a implementar a nivel nacional la Asistencia Funeraria para proporcionar apoyo financiero relacionado a los costos funerarios específicamente relacionados con la enfermedad del Coronavirus (COVID-19). Este seminario proporcionará información sobre la implementación de esta nueva política y orientación sobre la aplicabilidad, las condiciones de elegibilidad, la documentación requerida y otros temas importantes.

Upcoming FEMA Webinars

¿Quién debe participar? Toda la comunidad: individuos y familias, organizaciones de voluntarios y comunitarias, gobierno local, estatal y federal y sector privado.

Inscríbese en español: https://femacqpub1.connectsolutions.com/content/connect/c1/7/en/events/event/shared/148225860/event_registration.html?sco-id=203391041

Ready Seniors August 2021

- *Wednesday, August 25th, 2021, 01:00pm - 04:00pm Eastern*

Please join the Region II National Preparedness Division for a Ready Senior workshop.

Increasingly, frail older adults with complex health issues live alone in the community, far from their relatives and caregivers. An older adult may depend upon community service providers for basic necessities and psychosocial support prior to a disastrous event. However, the need for these critical services increases when services are disrupted, or the senior is impacted during a major disaster. FEMA Region II and the Administration for Community Living have partnered to address this disparity through a workshop aimed at preparing AAAs and other organizations that provide critical support services to senior citizens in their communities.

Who should attend? Emergency planners for nursing homes, assisted living facilities, senior community centers, senior housing, adult day care centers, home meal delivery services, charitable organizations, and other who provide services to senior citizens.

Registration: https://femacqpub1.connectsolutions.com/content/connect/c1/7/en/events/event/shared/148225860/event_registration.html?sco-id=198032624

Upcoming FEMA Webinars

Preparedness Bingo

- *Wednesday, September 1st, 2021, 12:00pm - 1:00pm Eastern*

Please join the Region II National Preparedness Division for National Preparedness Month Week 1's Preparedness Bingo game.

The event will begin with a presentation on important emergency kit items followed by a game of Bingo. Participants can generate their own Bingo Card through this link. The game host will identify and describe the purpose of each item called. With multiple rounds scheduled everyone has a chance to win!

Registration: https://femacqpub1.connectsolutions.com/content/connect/c1/7/en/events/event/shared/148225860/event_registration.html?sco-id=204519510

Exploring the “Guides to Expanding Mitigation”: Agriculture Industry

- *Wednesday, September 1st, 2021, from 12:00pm - 12:30pm Eastern*

Please join the Region 2 Mitigation and National Preparedness Divisions for a webinar on how to expand the reach of mitigation activities by engaging representatives from the agriculture sector. Later this month is National Farm Safety and Health Week –

This webinar will focus on the Agriculture Guide in the “Guides to Expanding Mitigation” series. Agriculture is a significant part of state and local economies and the industry represents an important partner in bolstering community resilience. Learn how to engage agriculture organizations and farmers during mitigation planning.

Who should attend? The whole community – individuals and families, volunteer and faith-based organizations, local, state, federal government and private sector.

Registration: https://femacqpub1.connectsolutions.com/content/connect/c1/7/en/events/event/shared/148225860/event_registration.html?sco-id=177731263

Upcoming FEMA Webinars

Remain Vigilant: The History of CISA and Resources to Keep you Safe

- *Thursday, September 9th, 2021, 01:00pm - 02:00pm Eastern*

Please join the Region 2 National Preparedness Division for a webinar about remaining vigilant to security threats.

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency serves as the nation's risk advisor. In Region II, they support cyber and physical security information sharing and deliver tools and assessments to critical infrastructure owners and operators. This presentation will discuss the evolution of the agency and provide a summary of the tools and assessments.

Who should attend? The whole community – individuals and families, volunteer and faith-based organizations, local, state, federal government and private sector.

Registration: https://femacqpub1.connectsolutions.com/content/connect/c1/7/en/events/event/shared/148225860/event_registration.html?sco-id=198032988

Exploring the “Guides to Expanding Mitigation”: Zombie Apocalypse Guide and Cemeteries Guide

- *Wednesday, October 6th, 2021, 12:00pm - 12:30pm Eastern*

Please join the Region 2 Mitigation and National Preparedness Divisions for a webinar on how to expand the reach of mitigation activities by planning for even the spookiest scenarios.

This webinar will focus on the Zombie Apocalypse Guide and the Cemeteries Guide in the “Guides to Expanding Mitigation” series. While zombies are not real, every community faces very real risks from natural hazards that could impact their important cultural resources, including cemeteries. Learn how to account for the dead – and undead – in your community's mitigation program.

Who should attend? The whole community – individuals and families, volunteer and faith-based organizations, local, state, federal government and private sector.

Registration: https://femacqpub1.connectsolutions.com/content/connect/c1/7/en/events/event/shared/148225860/event_registration.html?sco-id=177712553

Upcoming FEMA Webinars

Exploring the “Guides to Expanding Mitigation”: Communications Systems Guide

- *Wednesday, November 3rd, 2021, 12:00pm - 12:30pm Eastern*

Please join the Region 2 Mitigation and National Preparedness Divisions for a webinar on how to expand the reach of mitigation activities by engaging telecommunications experts. Tune in for this timely discussion during Infrastructure Security Month

This webinar will focus on the Communications Systems Guide in the “Guides to Expanding Mitigation” series. Connectivity is crucial in times of crisis – before, during and after disasters. Learn how maintaining a stable and efficient communications system is key to creating a resilient community.

Who should attend? The whole community – individuals and families, volunteer and faith-based organizations, local, state, federal government and private sector.

Registration: https://femacqpub1.connectsolutions.com/content/connect/c1/7/en/events/event/shared/148225860/event_registration.html?sco-id=177722462

You Are the Help Until Help Arrives November

- *Thursday, November 18th, 2021, 12:00pm - 02:00pm Eastern*

Please join the Region II National Preparedness Division for a webinar on how you can be the help until help arrives.

Life-threatening emergencies can happen fast and emergency responders aren't always nearby.

You may be able to save a life by taking simple actions immediately. The Until Help Arrives program teaches basic skills to help keep people alive and safe until professional help arrives. Learn five simple steps that may save a life.

Who should attend? The whole community – public, NGOs, local, state, federal government and private sector.

Registration: https://femacqpub1.connectsolutions.com/content/connect/c1/7/en/events/event/shared/148225860/event_registration.html?sco-id=172999125

Upcoming FEMA Webinars

Exploring the “Guides to Expanding Mitigation”: Codes and Standards Guide

- Wednesday, December 1st, 2021, 12:00pm - 12:30pm Eastern

Please join the Region 2 Mitigation and National Preparedness Divisions for a webinar on how to expand the reach of mitigation activities by engaging building code and policy experts.

As hurricane season gets underway, learn how you can integrate resiliency into your community's codes.

This webinar will focus on the Codes and Standards Guide in the “Guides to Expanding Mitigation” series. When our physical environment is constructed to be more resilient, communities experience long term benefits. Higher standards benefit both buildings and infrastructure to protect community lifelines.

Who should attend? The whole community – individuals and families volunteer and faith-based organizations, local, state, federal government and private sector.

Registration: https://femacqpub1.connectsolutions.com/content/connect/c1/7/en/events/event/shared/148225860/event_registration.html?sco-id=177731365

NCA 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/p934tthhsmb/>.

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 Time Zone, and participants must register for each webinar separately. All webinars will be recorded and made available on FEMA's webinar website.

1. Tuesday, August 24th, 2021 1:00pm to 2:30pm Eastern

Developing and Organizing your CERT Team to the Max. Presented by Lisa Rubey (New Braunsfel 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 8th, 2021, 1:00pm to 2:30pm Eastern

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>

NCA Webinars

3. Tuesday, September 21st, 2021, 1:00pm to 2:30pm Eastern

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, October 12th, 2021, 1:00pm to 3:00pm Eastern

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, October 26th, 2021, 1:00pm to 2:30pm Eastern

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, November 9th, 2021, 1:00pm to 5:00pm Eastern

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>

NCA Webinars

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/pqhs7tidfyzf/>

NCA Webinars

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/>

Webinar Ideas

Are there any webinar topics that you are interested in? Email us at info@nationalcert.org with your suggestions.

Adobe Connect

Most of the webinars held by FEMA will be on the Adobe Connect Platform. Many participants have experienced technical issues with this platform. To alleviate these issues, we recommend that participants connect with the Adobe Connect App (and not use a browser).

Please go ahead and download Adobe Connect for your computer. This is the best way to see the webinar and participate as a presenter.

- Adobe download information: <https://www.adobe.com/go/Connectsetup>
- Test your connection: https://fema.connectsolutions.com/common/help/en/support/meeting_test.htm
- Get a quick overview: <http://www.adobe.com/products/adobeconnect.html>

NCA Partners and Sponsors

QuickSeries

Known for their outstanding pocket guides, QuickSeries partnered with CERT leaders in California to create the CERT Field Operation Guide in 2015. In 2021, QuickSeries is partnering with the NCA to refresh the CERT FOG as well as develop additional guides for the CERT community. Learn more about the partnership with QuickSeries here:

<https://nationalcert.org/partnersandsponsors/QuickSeries>



QuickSeries signed a partnership agreement with the NCA during the 2021 National CERT Conference. Under the agreement, the NCA will:

- Work with QuickSeries to keep the CERT Field Operations Guide Updated. The NCA will receive 7% of the sales of the physical FOG and 5% of digital sales
- Get a 5-7% commission on any QuickSeries sales if the customer mentions the NCA/National CERT Association
- QuickSeries will add an additional 50% of the commissions toward their annual CERT Conference Sponsorship (currently capped at \$10,000).

The NCA may start working with QuickSeries on a Companion CERT FOG later in 2021. This companion FOG will feature activities that CERT volunteers are often deployed to do during a disaster such as EOC Operations Support, Donations Management, Shelter Operations, Points of Distribution, etc.

Merit

Merit has been the lead sponsor for CERT Conferences in California, Florida, and Missouri, including the 2018 and 2021 National CERT Conference. Merit offers a digital badging tool (free for CERT programs) as well as checking in tools. Merit will be working with the NCA on the NCA ID Card which will include a credential lookup for FEMA's CERT Credentialing program. Learn more about our partnership with Merit here:

<https://nationalcert.org/partnersandsponsors/Merit>

Did You Know?

FEMA CERT Website

The National FEMA CERT website is <https://www.ready.gov/cert>. On the website you can:

- Register or update your CERT Program
- Download CERT training materials including Basic CERT, Train-the-Trainer, and Program Manager materials in multiple languages
- Request free FEMA publications including CERT Basic manuals, preparedness flyers, and more. Here is the direct link: <https://www.ready.gov/publications>

Emergency Management Institute (EMI)

The FEMA Emergency Management Institute offers training online and in-person. Take free Independent Study Courses (IS) or apply to take a course at EMI in Maryland, Emmitsburg. Learn more at <https://training.fema.gov/emi.aspx>.

NCA Resource Library

The National CERT Association has a resource library for NCA members. The library has five levels of access: NCA Leadership, State/Territory/FEMA CERT Coordinators, CERT Program Managers, CERT Instructors and NCA Member. Email permissions@nationalcert.org to get vetted for access. The resource library has links to training materials, webinars, and other CERT related resources. Learn more at <https://nationalcert.org>.

NCA Newsletter

Want to be featured in the NCA Newsletter? Submit an article to newsletter@nationalcert.org.

Did You Know?

Free NCA CERT Program Manager Membership

CERT Programs can apply for a free CERT Program Manager membership to the NCA. CERT Program Manager membership will grant access to the NCA resource library and NCA email communication. CERT Program Managers must register/update their CERT program for the current calendar year to maintain the free Program Manager Membership. Free Program Manager Membership is only granted to the CERT Program Manager on file for the FEMA CERT Registration website and is non-transferable. For more information, email membership@nationalcert.org.

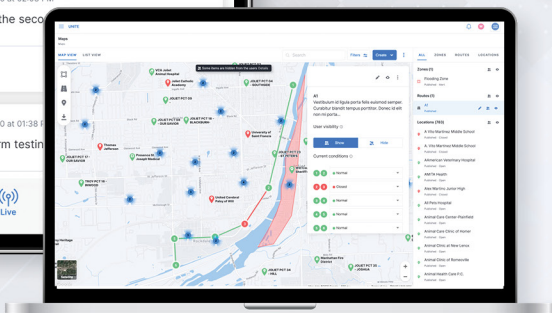
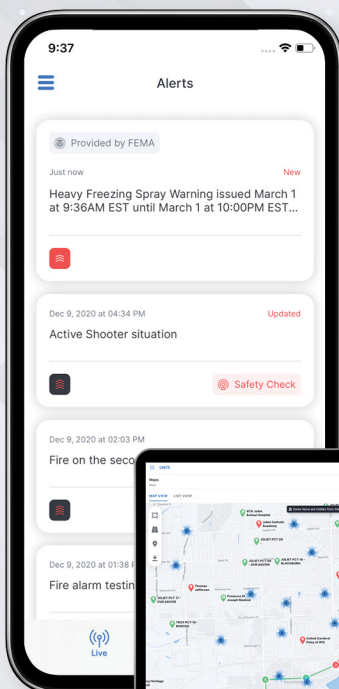
Free CERT Program Membership does not include the Charter Member Challenge coin or the NCA ID Card. CERT Program Membership does not come with a NCA membership number.

38



QuickSeries knows that community safety is priority #1.

Reliable Content. Innovative Delivery.



We are proud to partner with the NCA, delivering reliable print and mobile products that help CERTs confidently prepare for and respond to any crisis.

NCA Contact Info

- Visit our website at <https://nationalcert.org> to stay up to date on the NCA
- Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NationalCERT>
- Follow us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/NationalCERT1>
- Training@nationalcert.org – have a CERT resource to add to the NCA resource library? Email us here.
- permissions@nationalcert.org – NCA members that need permissions to the resource library can email us here to get vetted.
- newsletter@nationalcert.org – want to submit an article for the NCA newsletter? Email us here.

National CERT Association Leadership

The NCA is led by a Board of Directors that includes up to 20 Regional Reps, up to 10 At-Large Members, and FEMA Regional and HQ CERT Coordinators. See the current NCA Leadership team at: <https://nationalcert.org/our-team/leadership>.

NCA Newsletter Team

Suu-Va Tai – Lead Writer/Editor
Alexander Tai – Graphics and Layout
Sandra Firpo – Writer/Editor
Josh Vittie – Writer/Editor

Want to submit an article for the next newsletter? Email us at newsletter@nationalcert.org.

The NCA Newsletter Committee is looking for people to help write and edit upcoming newsletters. Email us at newsletter@nationalcert.org if you are interested.