



EL SEGUNDO FIRE DEPARTMENT
ATTN: EMERGENCY SERVICES / CERT
314 MAIN STREET
EL SEGUNDO, CALIFORNIA 90245

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WHAT IS CERT?

Experience has shown that following a major disaster, emergency resources are quickly depleted. Individuals in their homes, businesses and neighborhoods may have to be self-reliant up to the first 72 hours.

The *El Segundo Fire Department C.E.R.T. Program* is designed to train volunteers in the community to assist themselves, co-workers and neighbors during large-scale disasters and emergency's occurring while at home or at the work place.

Volunteers successfully completing seven-core classes and an exercise will receive a certificate of completion from the City of El Segundo and FEMA. Volunteers, upon graduation from the program will receive a C.E.R.T. response kit with a hard hat, gloves, first-aid kit and other materials. Students are issued orientation manuals and procedures, and a binder.

Once training is completed, *El Segundo Fire Department C.E.R.T. Volunteers* may respond to and assist during emergencies in their work place by becoming Floor Wardens or Safety Officers. They may also assist in their neighborhoods as CERT Team leaders, and Block Captains. They will assist the community after a natural disaster by fanning out in their communities extinguishing small fires, turning off affected natural gas lines, performing light Search and Rescue, administering Basic First Aid; and performing CPR.

The *El Segundo Fire Department C.E.R.T. Volunteers* are part of the City's Volunteer Corps and play a vital part of the City's Civil Defense system. For over 50 years, Civil Defense programs have played a major component in America's response to disasters (natural and man-made). The logo for the team encompasses the traditions of Civil Defense, community partnership, response, and readiness to mitigate disasters and their impact on the community.

**EL SEGUNDO FIRE DEPARTMENT
EMERGENCY SERVICES DIVISION
314 MAIN STREET
EL SEGUNDO, CALIFORNIA 90245**

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EL SEGUNDO FIRE DEPARTMENT

C O M M U N I T Y E M E R G E N C Y R E S P O N S E T E A M

**Volunteer Training
24-Hour
Training Course**

(EACH SESSION IS 3 HOURS)

- ◆ **Disaster Preparedness**
- ◆ **Terrorism Awareness (BNICE)**
- ◆ **Basic Fire Suppression**
- ◆ **Disaster Medical Response (I)**
- ◆ **Disaster Medical Response (II)**
- ◆ **Light Search & Rescue**
- ◆ **Disaster Psychology & Critical Incident Management**
- ◆ **Practical Skills Exercise**

citizen*★*corps
Learn more and join today!

CERT TEAM BACKGROUND



The Community Emergency Response Team concept was developed and implemented by the Los Angeles City Fire Department (LAFD) in 1985. The Whittier Narrows earthquake in 1987

underscored the area-wide threat of a major disaster in California. Further, it confirmed the need for training

civilians to meet their immediate needs. As a result, the LAFD created the Disaster Preparedness Division with the purpose of training citizens and private and government employees. Since 1993, more than 10,000 people and over 267 teams have been trained in the City of Los Angeles.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recognizes the importance of preparing citizens. The Emergency Management Institute (EMI) and the National Fire Academy adopted and expanded the CERT



materials believing them applicable to all hazards. The City of El Segundo developed its CERT program in 1999 based on the standards previously established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Emergency Management Institute (EMI), and the Los Angeles City Fire Department. The CERT course will benefit any citizen who takes it. You will be better prepared to respond to and cope with the aftermath of a disaster. The goal of the training is to increase awareness among the community. Membership in the CERT Team is not required, however, these groups can provide immediate assistance to victims in their area, organize spontaneous volunteers who have not had the training, and collect disaster intelligence that will assist professional responders with prioritization and allocation of resources following a disaster.

CERT TEAM ORGANIZATION



The CERT Team functions as a partnership with the City of El Segundo, business & industry, and residents. A team of first responders who have the requisite knowledge and skills to instruct the sessions deliver the CERT course. The Instructors have completed a CERT Train-the-Trainer (TTT) course affiliated with the State Office of Emergency Services and FEMA's Emergency Management Institute. The CERT training for community groups is currently delivered in 3-hour sessions & an exercise totaling 24 hours (sessions may vary). *Each CERT Team member upon completion of the course will be issued a Certificate of Course completion, receive Disaster Service Worker classification, and be issued a backpack to store equipment and supplies. An optional \$50.00 charge may be applied for the CERT Team Backpack (actual cost).*

In a disaster, the City will activate its emergency response plan and coordinate all necessary resources in a centralized management system. CERT Team members when activated, will work under the direction of an Incident Commander in conjunction with the City's Emergency Services Coordinator.

CERT Team members do not work independently, only as a team. CERT members do not respond to any incident unless specifically activated by the City of El Segundo. Realistically, CERT Team members survey their neighborhood for damage, assess critical needs, and take prevention measures to ensure the safety of family, friends, and neighbors. CERT Team members provide information to their neighbors and assist the neighborhood in becoming self-reliant until emergency services personnel can arrive.

If you are interested in attending a CERT Team class, please contact the City Of El Segundo's Emergency Services Coordinator at (310) 524-2252 or clip this interest card and drop it into the nearest post office box. The Emergency Services Coordinator will contact you at a later date.

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER(S): _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

REQUIREMENTS FOR VOLUNTEER CERT TEAM MEMBERSHIP: Minimum age for consideration is eighteen (18) years upon completion of training. Candidates should be in generally good health and subject to work in undesirable conditions. Prospective CERT Team members may be subject to a thorough background investigation by the El Segundo Police Department, and swear an oath as a Disaster Service Worker (DSW) under the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) in accordance with CCR, Title 19, Division 2.