



The CERT Report

July 2009

Graduation



Dignitaries, instructors, liaisons, and members of the new CERT Bronx 10 team.

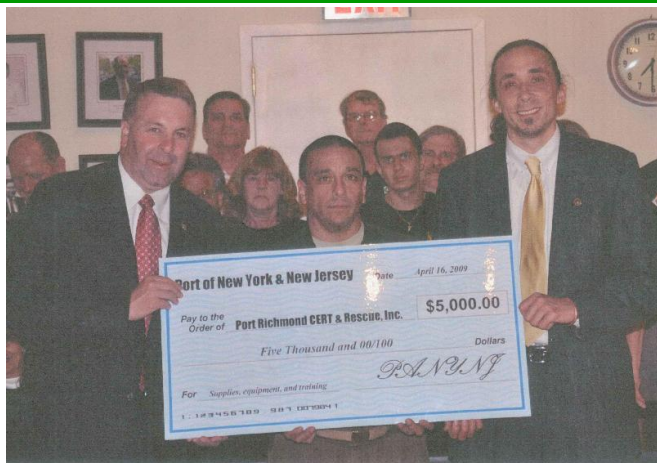
On June 24, 136 new volunteers completed the NYC OEM CERT Training Program. The ceremony took place at the FDNY training academy on Randall's Island.

Deputy Mayor Edward Skyler, OEM Commissioner Joseph Bruno, NYPD Chief of Patrol Robert Gianelli, and FDNY Chief of Training Thomas Galvin gave remarks for the new volunteers. They were joined by speeches from Manhattan Borough Manager Jay Schofield and a representative from the Staten Island Backfill class, Patricia Williamson.

The volunteers that graduated represented people from all over the City. Backfill classes in Staten Island, Brooklyn, and Manhattan all sent new members to existing teams, and new teams were created in Manhattan 9, Queens 12/13, and Bronx 10.

NYC CERT welcomes all our new graduates! We are happy to have you in our ranks.

Port Richmond CERT Recognized



Councilman Kenneth Mitchell, Port Richmond Team Chief John Tidona, and OEM Director of Community Outreach Herman Schaffer with the check from the Port Authority.

National Preparedness Month



Members of CERT Queens 4 at the Queens Mall during last years' National Preparedness Month.

Teams are encouraged to be even more active than they usually are throughout the month of September, which is designated National Preparedness Month. Last year teams in every borough worked together and leveraged community partnerships to set up outstanding events in notable locations.

OEM has planned a kickoff event for September 3 with locations in each of the five boroughs. Ready New York materials and supplies will be distributed along with information about OEM and other Citizen Corps Council Member Agencies.

More information about weekly themes and events will be coming out soon from OEM, but if you and your team are already planning to distribute supplies, please submit orders to OEM as soon as possible. If you need a copy of the order form, please e-mail cert@oem.nyc.gov.

Cycle 13 in the Fall

On April 16 Staten Island's Port Richmond CERT team was presented with a \$5,000 donation from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. Congressman Michael McMahon, representing Staten Island and Brooklyn in the US House of Representatives, and NYC Councilman Kenneth Mitchell of Staten Island were both instrumental in obtaining the donation, according to team chief and borough manager John Tidona. The funds will be used for supplies, equipment, and training.

The team members were also honored on May 16 when NY1 News named them *Staten Islanders of the Week*. NY1 filmed the team training at one of their weekly meetings, with stations set up for light search and rescue, traffic control, and medical operations.

Congratulations to the Port Richmond CERT team, and keep up the good work!

Ready New York for Kids



CERT volunteers are asked to go out into their communities and use OEM's Ready New York preparedness campaign to educate neighbors about the various dangers New Yorkers face and how to be better prepared for them.

The Ready New York program has developed two guides for younger New Yorkers, one for elementary students and one for teens. The Ready New York for Kids pilot kicked off this spring to much success. The program will now be going citywide with presentations for elementary schools being planned for the fall.

Active CERT members who are interested in presenting Ready New York for Kids should contact certtraining@oem.nyc.gov.

If you would like to request the guides, or any other Ready New York guides, have your team's Ready New York liaison contact 311 or CERT program staff.

Check out the National FEMA CERT Newsletter: <http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/newsletter.shtm>

For more information about NYC OEM CERT, log on to the website at www.nyc.gov/cert or call the CERT hotline at (718) 422 - 8585.

CERT is always looking to train motivated individuals to prepare for and respond to emergencies. Anyone looking for more information may contact the CERT hotline or e-mail cert@oem.nyc.gov.



Participants of the Cycle 12 Lower Manhattan class stage before addressing the disaster simulation.

In addition to National Preparedness Month, September will also be the start of a new cycle of the 10-week CERT training. We are recruiting now for classes in Brooklyn, Queens, and the Bronx, and two classes in Manhattan--one on the West Side and one on the East Side.

If you know of anyone that would like to train and join a team, please have them e-mail cert@oem.nyc.gov or call the CERT hotline at (718) 422 - 8585 for more information.

Please note: Before any recruit is placed in a class, the appropriate team chief must submit a signed screening form either approving or rejecting the recruit's participation.

Get Notified

Notify NYC is the City of New York's official source for information about emergency events and important City services. The program recently went citywide, which means that it is a benefit not only for CERT teams and emergency management stakeholders, but for all New Yorkers.

Notify NYC subscribers will automatically receive emergency alerts and notifications. Participants are also invited to register for these additional Notify NYC services:

- Significant events notifications.
- Public health notifications.
- Public school closing/delay advisories.
- Unscheduled parking rules suspensions.

Registration is free and simple. To enroll, or for more information, visit www.nyc.gov/notifynyc.

CERT Quiz

a.) What are the three categories of community needs?

b.) Which degree of burn, while very serious, can result in little or no pain?

c.) How often should one replace the batteries in smoke detectors? What is a good reminder method?

Answers:

a.) physical, emotional, and informational

b.) third degree

c.) twice a year at daylight savings times

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