

## Gabrien Zervos

**From:** NYC Emergency Management <cert@oem.nyc.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2022 12:56 PM  
**To:** Gabrien Zervos  
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NYC CERT Newsletter | Issue 101 | 12/10/2022

# NYC Emergency Management CERT NEWSLETTER

NEW YORK CITY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

This weekly newsletter should provide you with helpful information that you can share and discuss with your community members.

[\(Click here to view as a webpage\)](#)

## PREPAREDNESS TIPS FOR NEW YORKERS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

### Be Festive, Stay Safe! Tips for a Safer Holiday Season

Make a plan to celebrate the holiday season safely. Be festive while protecting your loved ones and preventing the spread of COVID-19: Do not travel (rediscover holidays at home!); do not host or attend a holiday party (go virtual instead!); and do not gather in groups and only celebrate with household members (less is more!). Here are some tips on how to celebrate.

As New York City proceeds into the full swing of the holiday season, NYCEM wants to wish New Yorkers a happy and safe holidays! As everyone begins to gather and celebrate this festive month, we want to take the initiative and remind New Yorkers to prepare themselves and their families for emergencies to stay safe during the holiday season!

Whether you are lighting up your home with holiday decorations, burning winter-themed scented candles, or have the grueling task of shoveling snow we want you to remember to be safe so you and your family can have the best celebrations possible. Here are some tips to help you prepare for the holiday season.

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### MONDAY RADIO ROLL CALL

Borough Channel: **Staten Island (CERT SI)**

Call Scenario: **Report the unit #'s of the radios your Team possesses.**

12/12 Responding Borough: **Brooklyn**

Documents to Review:  
[Citywide Radio Drill Refresher](#)  
[Call signs per Radio](#)

### **Fire Safety Tips**

- Space heaters need space. Keep space heaters at least 3 ft. from bedding, curtains, and other materials, and always plug your heater directly into the wall.
- Never overload outlets and don't rely on extension cords too heavily.
- Never place an electric blanket on a baby, small child, or anyone who cannot turn off/remove the blanket on their own.
- An operable smoke alarm cuts your chances of dying nearly in half.
- Keep non-synthetic Christmas trees watered and away from heat sources.
- Turn off Christmas tree lights overnight.
- Do not leave burning candles unattended
- Do not use oven to heat apartments.

### **Prepare for Power Outages**

- To prepare for a possible power outage, charge cell phone batteries, gather supplies, and turn your refrigerator and freezer to a colder setting. If you lose power, items that need refrigeration will stay cooler for longer.
- If your power goes out, disconnect or turn off appliances that would otherwise turn on automatically when service is restored. If several appliances start up at once, the electric circuits may overload.
- Make sure your flashlights and any battery-operated radios or televisions are working. Keep extra batteries.
- If you lose power and have a disability, access and functional needs or use life-sustaining equipment (LSE) and need immediate assistance, dial 911.
- Do not use generators indoors.

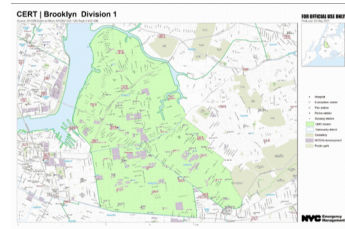
### **Snow Removal Safety Tips**

- Stretch before you go out. If you go out to shovel snow, do a few stretching exercises to warm up your body. This may prevent injury.
- Cover your mouth. Protect your lungs from extremely cold air by covering your mouth when outdoors.
- Avoid overexertion. Cold weather puts an added strain on the heart. Unfamiliar exercise, such as shoveling snow or pushing a car, can bring on a heart attack or make other medical conditions worse. Take frequent rest breaks, and drink plenty of fluids to avoid dehydration.
- Keep dry. Change wet clothes frequently to prevent a loss of body heat. Wet clothing loses all of its insulating value and transmits heat rapidly.
- Stay safe. Walk carefully on snowy or icy sidewalks. If using a snowblower, \*never\* use your hands to unclog the machine.
- Maintain an awareness of utilities while shoveling snow. Do not cover fire hydrants with snow when clearing sidewalks and driveways. Do not shovel snow into manholes and catch basins.
- Offer to help individuals who require special assistance, including seniors and people with disabilities.

## **Snow Laborers**



The [NYC CERT Standard Operating Procedures \(SOPs\)](#) provides guidance and outlines policies and procedures for you and your team to follow.



NYC CERT Division maps are available (pdf format) to support recruitment and preparedness planning in your community.

[Brooklyn](#) - [Bronx](#) - [Manhattan](#) - [Queens](#) - [Staten Island](#)



View the [NYC CERT Event Calendar](#) to see upcoming training, meetings, and planned deployments.

After you participate, be sure to [Submit Your Volunteer Hours!](#)



Registration is now open for those interested in serving as paid Emergency Snow Laborers for the NYC Department of Sanitation this winter season.

Those interested in becoming a Snow Laborer must register using the online application link here: [nyc.gov/snow](https://nyc.gov/snow).

*NYC Emergency Management is promoting this as a volunteer opportunity outside of NYC CERT. This is not a CERT-sanctioned activity and CERT liability coverage does not apply.*

## Quiz of the Week

There is no right or wrong answer for this week's question. NYC CERT volunteers wear many hats in the community. Our volunteers are our community ambassadors and assist during Preparedness, Response, or Recovery phases. NYC CERT volunteers are always supportive. [Click Here!](#) to participate in this survey.



## Volunteer hours



It's not too late to submit your volunteer hours for 2022. Please remember your travel time counts as well, and any miscellaneous volunteer time such as participating in FEMA Independent studies and Buddy checks also count.

If you have any questions on how to submit your service hours, you can view the [Hours Submission FAQs](#).

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# READY NEW YORK

If your division is hosting or participating in an upcoming event, please complete the [Event Request form](#) to have your opportunity published through Eventbrite.com for members to register.



Your NYC CERT Ready New York Liaison can submit a [Ready New York Material Request](#) for upcoming events.

Get Notified with New York City's official source for information about emergency alerts and important city services. Download the free [Notify NYC](#) mobile app, available for [iOS](#) and [Android](#).

## VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY

### Planned Deployments

#### Operation Satna Clause

On Wednesday, December 7, 2022 Brooklyn Division 5 CERT assisted the Community Mayors for Children with Special Needs, Inc. with their annual Operation Santa Claus event at JFK Airport. CERT Teams Citywide were invited to help with this event as well and were well represented! The event involved thousands of children with special needs and even had the very special guest being Macy's own Santa Clause.



#### Disaster Simulation Support



This past Wednesday and Thursday, CERT members helped play the part of live victims during this cycle's Disaster Simulation where the students were tasked with objectives similar to that of a large-scale activation. Now their next step is graduation!

Thank you to all who came and helped make their simulation as real as possible!

[Download NYC CERT Background](#) for use during CERT meetings and training in a virtual environment (e.g. Microsoft Teams, Zoom, etc.)



## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

NYC CERT CALENDAR



## Dyker Heights Holiday Lights Deployment



NYC CERT will be assisting the 68th Precinct with crowd and traffic control at the Dyker Heights Holiday Lights during the upcoming holiday season. Volunteers will be needed weekly on Friday and Saturday evenings on December 9th and 10th on December 16th and 17th and on Friday evening of December 23rd.

**[All deployments will be from 6pm-9pm]**

[To register for any of the deployment dates click here.](#)

## NOAA Eastern Region Climate Services Webinar

The Northeast Regional Climate Center hosts a monthly webinar with NOAA affiliates to address timely weather and climate concerns.

The topics vary by the day the presentation is given; they are as follows:

- Thursday, December 15 - Massachusetts Drought Dashboard
- Tuesday, January 31 - Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation Tool

**[All Webinar's are from 9:30am-10:30am]**

[To register click here](#)



## FEMA Region 2 Webinar: Active Shooter Awareness



Preparing for a potential active shooter incident is an integral component of an organization's incident response planning. Because active shooter incidents are unpredictable and evolve quickly, preparing for and knowing what to do in an active shooter situation can be the difference between life and death.

Workshop objectives:

- Discuss active shooter response actions (Run-Hide-Fight)
- Describe common behaviors, conditions, and situations associated with active shooter events.
- Discuss how to recognize potential workplace violence indicators.

- Provide information about best practices, communications protocols, and resources that will assist stakeholders to develop or enhance their emergency planning, preparedness, and response to active shooter incidents.

[The webinar will take place on December 15th from 12pm-1pm](#)

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## FEMA Region 2 Webinar: Give Yourself, and Others the Gift of Preparedness

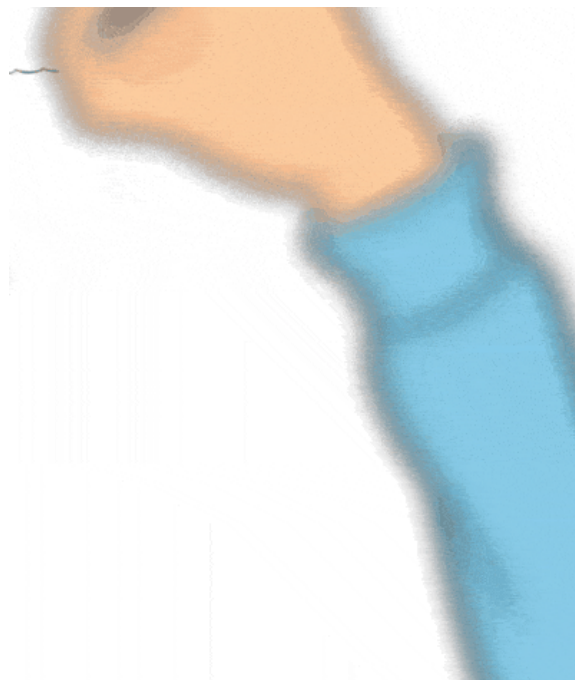
The Individual and Community Preparedness team joined forces with FEMA to bring you some unique ideas. FEMA, NJOEM, The American Red Cross, NJVOAD and others has a seemingly endless supply of unique gift ideas for yourself, your family and your community. Giving the gift of preparedness shows loved ones you care about their safety and well-being, especially during a time of emergency.

[The webinar will take place on December 13th from 12pm-1pm](#)



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## CERT Recruitment Group



Are you interested in joining the NYC CERT Recruitment Group? NYCEM is trying to expand the group, to better assist all boroughs with recruitment. Recruitment group info sessions will be offered at the start of the monthly meeting, going forward, to enable interested CERT members the opportunity to hear more about this task force and meet current members of the group. This is a great opportunity to be a part of the effort to grow membership in the program. Consider joining us for an info session this year! Dates and registration links below:

[Monday, Dec. 19th at 6:30PM](#)

## Buddy Check

As we close out a long year of volunteering to support your community and head into a new year with new challenges, please take some time to support one another. The best way to do that is by performing buddy checks.

What is a buddy check?

Taking the time to check on family and friends, especially those unable to leave their home for any reason. You might be surprised by the impact you'll have on those who you connect with.

[Report your Volunteer Hours](#)

Search for *Buddy Check* Event



Are you interested in becoming a mentor to new NYC CERT members?

All Volunteer leadership should be encouraging active members to serve in a mentor role in order to support both their growth as leaders and provide new opportunities for newer members to become more engaged.

Complete the [NYC CERT Mentor Program form](#) to let us know if you'd like to be a mentor or mentee.

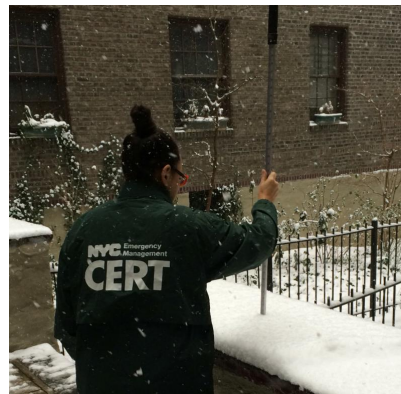
Complete the [Matching Questionnaire](#) to help pair the mentor to a mentee. Both forms must be filled out to participate in the program.

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

### Snow Measuring/ SkyWarn Training

With winter weather rapidly approaching, NYCEM will be hosting advanced training concerning snow measuring. Through the webinar, CERT members will learn the basics of thunderstorm development, fundamentals of storm structure, how to identify potential severe weather features, Information to report, how to report information, along with basic severe weather safety.

[The SkyWarn Training will be conducted over zoom this Dec. 13th from 6:30pm-8:00pm.](#)



[NYC CERT online platform](#) includes online courses to support volunteer growth.

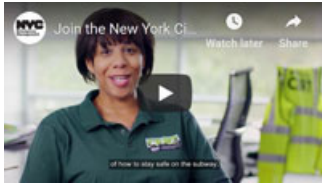
Schedule free training for your Division here : [FDNY Smart Fire Safety](#).

[FEMA Region 2 \(R2\) Webinar Catalogue](#) includes all recorded webinars.

COVID-19 Community Conversations: Mental Health, Equity and Resilience

DOHMH is offering free virtual training to community groups. There are two options, a [1-hour informational virtual presentation](#) and a [3-hour interactive training](#) (available in English, Spanish, Cantonese, and Mandarin).

## THINGS TO KNOW



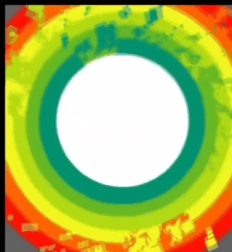
[NYCEM's YouTube page](#)  
[NYC CERT recruitment video](#)  
[2021 National Volunteer Week video](#)



[Resolve to Be Ready Calendar](#)  
Regular reminders in simple steps that can help you work preparedness into your busy schedule.



Listen to the NEW episodes of NYCEM's two podcasts, Prep Talk ([SoundCloud](#), [iTunes](#) & [Spreaker](#)) and ¡Prepárate! on [SoundCloud](#).



[KNOW YOUR ZONE](#) is your destination for everything you need to know about hurricanes in New York City.

You'll find information about the city's hurricane evacuation zones, the hazards you may face from a hurricane, and what to do to prepare.

## NYC Emergency Management



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