

## Speaker Series: NYC Public Advocate Jumaane Williams



On January 22nd NYCEM hosted Public Advocate Jumaane Williams to speak with our CERT leaders about Leading with Innovation. The evening was filled with leadership tips, words of encouragement and stories from his personal life which gave us all a deeper understanding of the Public Advocate as a person. The Public Advocate honored CERT leadership by presenting them with Citation's for the work they perform as leaders in the CERT program and the community.

[Click here to view all event pictures](#)

Interested in being part of NYC CERT Leadership?

[Book a meeting with us now](#)

**Thank you to CERT's Buddy Check Queen!**



### MONDAY RADIO ROLL CALL

Radio Channel  
CERT BX

**1/27 Responding Borough:**  
Brooklyn

**Scenario:** Have you checked on a fellow NYC CERT member?

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



[Download the NYC CERT SOPs](#)

New York City Emergency Management Staff is excited to announce the release of the updated [NYC CERT Standard Operating Procedures \(SOPs\)](#)! All volunteers are encouraged to review the



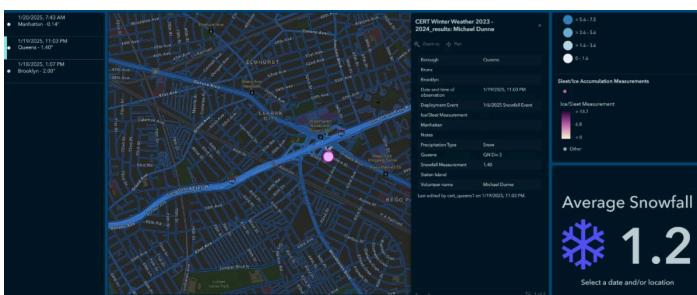
Delores Smith-Johnson, a dedicated CERT member with a long history of service and recent District Leader, recently visited NYCEM to return her NYC CERT ID and gear before embarking on a journey to Georgia. During her time with the team, Delores earned the well-deserved title of "Buddy Check Queen" for her unwavering commitment to conducting regular buddy checks – not only for her team members and neighbors but also for the NYCEM CERT staff. As expected, Delores plans to join the local CERT team in Georgia to continue her service. Thank you, Delores, for the care you've shown to others and all that you did for the program. We wish you the best in your next adventure!

## Snow Measuring Results

In response to the snowfall experienced earlier this week, NYC CERT members were requested to submit snow measurements utilizing Survey123. Reported snowfall depths ranged from 0.3 to 2 inches. In addition to snow measurements, participants captured photographs documenting the weather event and recorded other relevant field observations.



Allen Goldberg, Manhattan Division 4



Michael Dunne, Queens Division 3

latest iteration of expectations and guidance. For any questions, please reach out to your volunteer leadership or email [CERT@oem.nyc.gov](mailto:CERT@oem.nyc.gov).



[View and Download the Complete NYC CERT Basic Training Student Manual](#)

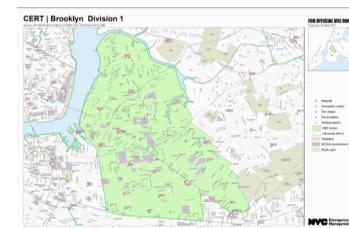


View the [NYC CERT Event Calendar](#) to see upcoming training, meetings, and planned deployments.

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

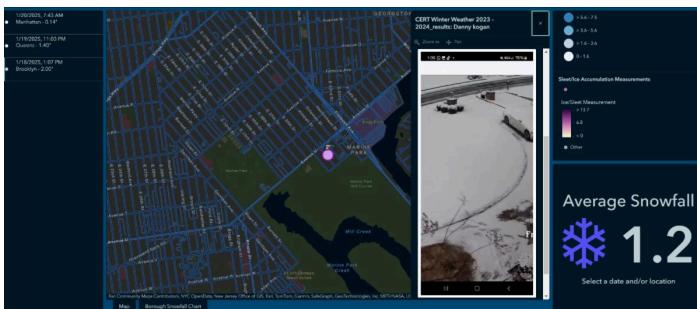
*\*Only events submitted and approved through the Event Request form will be available to volunteers to submit service hours. If you don't see your event listed, please connect with your division leadership. \**

For more questions on how to submit your service hours you can view the [Hours Submission FAQs](#).



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

- [Brooklyn](#) - [Bronx](#) - [Manhattan](#) -



Danny Kogan, Brooklyn Division 7

- Queens - Staten Island -

# NYCEM 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.





## CALL FOR PRESENTERS

13th Annual Community Preparedness Symposium  
Lead the Way and Prepare Today

Apply by 2/3/25  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CPSYMP0SIUM25>  
 Questions? Email: [communityprep@oem.nyc.gov](mailto:communityprep@oem.nyc.gov)

13th Annual Community Preparedness Symposium  
Lead the Way and Prepare Today

Apply by 2/3/25  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CPSYMP0SIUM25>  
 Questions? Email: [communityprep@oem.nyc.gov](mailto:communityprep@oem.nyc.gov)



Do you know a community or faith leader in NYC paving the way on how communities can better prepare for, respond to, and recover for emergencies?

Have them apply to present at this year's symposium! They can apply here by February 3rd:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CPSYMP0SIUM25>

#### Update on Material requests

All requests will contain the following:

- My Emergency Plan - 50
- Hurricane Map - 50
- Notify NYC card - 50
- NYC CERT card - 50
- Give-a-ways will depend on availability

Note: Ready New York plastic bags and tablecloths are no longer available.

All Division IDs are Ready



#### Membership:

Credentials for probationary members, who graduated last cycle (April), expired on September 30th. All members should

## Responding to the Disabilities and Access and Functional Needs Community Webinar



# FEMA

## REGION 2 ★



**Wednesday February 5, 2025 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM ET**

Please join FEMA Region 2 in partnership with the National CERT Association (NCA) and California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) for a

webinar discussion about Responding to the Disabilities and Access and Functional Needs Community.

During this presentation, attendees will learn about how New Jersey has embraced the whole community philosophy by engaging people with disabilities and access and functional needs (DAFN) in its CERT program. By starting at the municipal level, these CERTs help improve and enhance emergency preparedness and response efforts—from helping individuals with DAFN create personal preparedness plans to ensuring accessibility is restored following disasters. Strategies on how to best involve and serve individuals with DAFN in relation to the CERT program in other States will be discussed.

**Who should attend?** Local, State, Federal government, Community and Faith-based Organizations, Emergency Managers, CERT Leads, Program Managers and volunteers.

**Registration:** <https://fema.cosocloud.com/dafn/event/registration.html>  
Make sure to test your Adobe Connect before the meeting.

reach out to their division leadership to exchange expired credentials for updated ones.

#### Leadership:

Please remember to schedule a pick-up, or permit your members to schedule a pick-up for their updated IDs using this link: <https://on.nyc.gov/CERTpickup>

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](#).



#### California Wildfires - Where to Donate?

Donate online at <https://redcross.org/donate/>

Donate online at <https://calfund.org/funds/wildfire-recovery-fund/>

Your generosity will help provide essential resources, shelter, and support to those affected by the devastating wildfires.

[National VOAD](#) explains that sorting, storing, and transporting unsolicited goods can overwhelm relief efforts. Cash donations to nationally recognized organizations are the most effective way to

help. Organizations can buy exactly what's needed, when it's needed. Purchases are made locally, supporting businesses and aiding recovery and streamlines the relief efforts, eliminating wasted time or resources dealing with an influx of donated items.

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITY



## New CERT Graduate Orientation

Do you have questions about:

- Weekly NYC CERT newsletter?
- Submitting your volunteer hours?
- Registering for upcoming events and training

This session will provide an overview of how to engage with the NYC CERT program by providing a walk-through of:

- the [NYC CERT Event Calendar](#) for upcoming meetings, training and deployment opportunities
- How to [submit Your Volunteer Hours](#)
- How to best utilize the information provided in the weekly newsletter

[Registration, Tue, Feb 4, 2025 at 6:30 PM](#)

## Emergency Operations Center/ & NYCEM Watch Command Overview

**Learning Objectives include:**

- NYCEM 101
- Operations Division
- CERT Roles in the EOC
- Tour of the EOC

We ask that you wear your NYC CERT polo shirt.



[Registration, Wed, Feb 26, 2025 at 6:30 PM](#)

## CISA Learning

CISA's new Learning Management System has replaced the Federal Virtual Training Environment (FedVTE) and will replace multiple other platforms. CISA Learning will be the go-to learning platform CISA staff, contractors and external partners. CISA Learning will continue to offer the same no cost online cybersecurity training as FedVTE on topics such as cloud security, ethical hacking and surveillance, risk management, malware analysis, and more.



CISA Learning using the following link: <https://learning.cisa.gov/>

- External users will access CISA Learning via Login.gov, a secure government site.
- While Login.gov uses personal identifiable information (PII) for verification, this information is not shared with or captured in CISA Learning.
- For more information, visit: [What is Login.gov? | Login.gov](#)

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



## NYC CERT Orientation Support

We are seeking volunteers from our active membership to assist with upcoming in-person Orientation sessions for new applicants in 2025. These evening sessions, held from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM at NYCEM headquarters, will require volunteers to assist with light logistics, set-up, and answer questions from attendees. We encourage interested members to consider this valuable opportunity to contribute to the NYC CERT program.

*\*Additional date: Tuesday, January 28th!*

[Register for an Orientation Date](#)

---

# hope 2025

## Make a Difference

Thank you again for your help in making previous HOPE nights a success! Your support helps gather valuable information for determining how to allocate resources to best serve and support New Yorkers in need.

The 20th annual HOPE survey will take place on **Tuesday, January 28, 2025, and we still need your help!** Many volunteers have signed up so far, but we still need more to make HOPE 2025 a success. We especially have a need for volunteers in **Queens and the Bronx**.

Volunteers are critical to helping us conduct this citywide effort. Please register at [nyc.gov/hope](http://nyc.gov/hope) to join **HOPE 2025!** Every volunteer makes a difference.

## Recent Activity

## NYC CERT Applicant Orientation



Understandably, the extreme temperatures caused a large number of cancellations from applicants planning to attend the most recent CERT Orientation this past Tuesday. Still, NYC CERT Staff and one member, Yehuda Aboudi, were able to provide information on the program to a smaller group that braved the weather to come to NYCEM headquarters for an orientation session. To provide those that missed this orientation, and any others still interested in joining the winter cycle starting in two weeks, we added an orientation session next week, on Tuesday, January 28th. If interested, please [register](#) to support.

## Human Trafficking Awareness Training

**Final Takeaways...**

A survivor of trafficking has endured **severe trauma** and always deserves expansive client-centered support.

Text HELP to 233733 (BEFREE)

Call the ATP Intake line 718-943-8652 General line 718-943-8631

Remember that regardless of immigration status or possible crimes committed, a person **always** has rights to services.

If you are concerned about someone, call the 24 hour National Human Trafficking Hotline (888) 373-7888

safehorizon

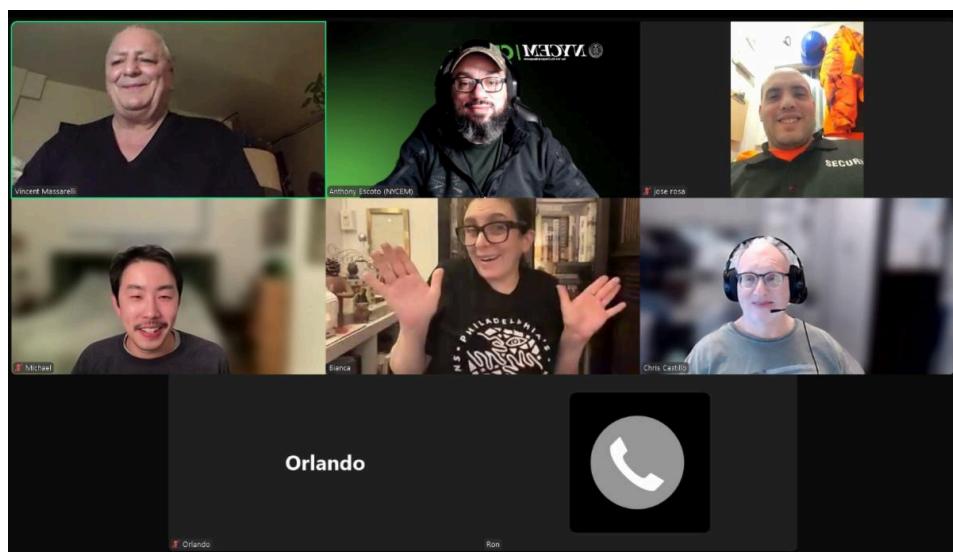
Eva Chavez @safehorizon.org Anthony Escoto (NYCEM) Gaudys Amy Sherman Gaudys Tania Bo Vallin Barbra Vallin Shyam Rambali Lillie Ng Emely Rodriguez Lillie Ng Joetta Brown Ariana Davis Joetta Brown Ann G. she/her sydell Carol Robinson

This past week, during Human Trafficking Awareness Month, volunteers participated in both a hybrid and a virtual session presented by Safe Horizon. These sessions delved into biases and myths surrounding human trafficking, while also providing valuable resources on how individuals can make a difference. A special thanks to Eva Chavez, our outstanding presenter from Safe Horizon and a member of Brooklyn Division 6 CERT!

Visit Safe Horizon Website for more information

## Meetings

## Manhattan Division 1



The past Thursday, Manhattan Division 1 held their monthly meeting. The meeting was well-attended, featuring introductions of both new and existing volunteers, and discussions on new initiatives and upcoming events. We are excited to see what Division 1 will accomplish in the new year.

## Brooklyn Division 5



Brooklyn Division 5 recently convened to introduce the division's new leadership team and also express sincere gratitude to the outgoing leadership for their dedication and remarkable accomplishments. We eagerly anticipate the implementation of new initiatives under the guidance of Jonathan Castro, the new Division Chief, who brings with him a wealth of fresh engagement ideas for the Division.

## Send Us Your Photos!



*Please continue to share any and all photos and videos from your NYC CERT events at [on.nyc.gov/CERTUpload](http://on.nyc.gov/CERTUpload)*

**Please note Date (including year), Borough, Division (or team), Event, members included (if available).**

If you have any questions, please contact us at [cert@oem.nyc.gov](mailto:cert@oem.nyc.gov). Thank you!

## NYC CERT CALENDAR



### **What is a Buddy Check?**

A simple check-in can mean the world. Reach out to family and friends, especially those who might be isolated. Your call, text, or visit could brighten their day and provide essential support. Don't underestimate the power of human connection. Be a good neighbor, be a good friend. Check in today!

### [Report your Volunteer Hours](#)

Search for *Buddy Check* Event

## **NYCEM CERT | MENTOR PROGRAM**

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.

[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.

## **THINGS TO KNOW**



## How To Request NYC CERT

If approached to support an event in your community, the following steps must be taken:

- Event organizer submits an official request using the [NYC CERT External Request Form](#).
- NYC CERT Leadership *should not* submit form on behalf of the event organizer.
- For events lead by a NYC CERT Division, volunteer leadership (Ready New York Liaison, if a preparedness event) should submit this [Event Request form](#).

NYC CERT program staff will review all requests. If approved, program staff will add the volunteer opportunity to the [NYC CERT Event Calendar](#) with a registration link. If more details are required for approval, program staff will use the contact information provided in the request form to connect with the organizer.

NYC CERT External Request Form: <https://on.nyc.gov/CERTrequest>  
Find the NYC CERT Protocols here: [NYC CERT SOPs](#)  
Schedule a meeting with NYCEM staff: [NYC CERT Volunteer Support](#)



## What is the NYC CERT Uniform?

**We are a Team!** To ensure we all represent NYC Emergency Management with professionalism, this message serves as a friendly reminder about our uniform policy. Whether it's a preparedness event or an emergency response, being in proper uniform allows us to be easily identified by the public and first responders. It signifies our commitment to safety and fosters a sense of unity.

Here's a quick rundown of the NYC CERT uniform:

- Green NYC CERT polo shirt (mandatory)
- Khaki pants (mandatory)
- NYC CERT reflective vest (always most visible outer layer)
- NYC CERT credential on lanyard, visible at all times (mandatory)
- Optional items: NYC CERT baseball hat, windbreaker, green helmet (for emergency responses), green CERT response bag (for emergency responses), NYC CERT branded sweaters/jackets (produced with NYCEM approval)

**Not sure about an item?** Don't hesitate to reach out! Contact us at [cert@oem.nyc.gov](mailto:cert@oem.nyc.gov) and we'll be happy to answer any questions or address any concerns you may have.



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



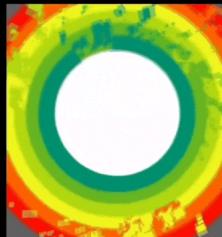
[NYCEM's YouTube page](#)  
[NYC CERT recruitment video](#)  
[2021 National Volunteer Week video](#)



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



Listen to all 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.



JOSEPH PUPELLO  
Director  
Volunteer Programs

ANTHONY ESCOTO  
Program Manager  
Training & Exercises

DENISE ESPOSITO  
Specialist  
Recruitment & Retention

REGINA WILSON  
Specialist  
CERT Leadership

GABRIEN ZERVOS  
Specialist  
Operations & Engagement

VANESSA RODRIGUEZ  
AmeriCorps  
Member

## NYCEM **CERT** **VOLUNTEER SUPPORT**

[Schedule a meeting with NYC CERT Staff:](#)  
<https://on.nyc.gov/bookCERT>

<i>Choose a Topic:</i>	<a href="#">CERT Pick-up (In-Person)</a>	<a href="#">NYC CERT Operations</a>	<a href="#">Advanced Training</a>	<a href="#">Exercises &amp; Tabletops</a>
<a href="#">General Questions</a>	<a href="#">CERT ID Questions</a>	<a href="#">Leadership Interest</a>	<a href="#">Borough Discussion</a>	<a href="#">Division Discussion</a>

This application lets you book a one-on-one meeting with a staff member who specializes in each specific topic. Please provide a clear description of your needs so we can prepare to address all of your questions and concerns.





NYC Emergency Management Communications Network | 165 Cadman Plaza East |  
Brooklyn, NY 11201 US