

ACTIVATION STATUS: NYC EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER IS ACTIVATED.

PLEASE NOTE: Program staff will respond to inquiries and requests as soon as possible. We appreciate your patience and support.

Calvin Drayton: NYCEM'S First Deputy Commissioner We Honor His Life and Service



The City mourns the loss of a remarkable leader: **Calvin Drayton**, former First Deputy Commissioner of NYC Emergency Management. A dedicated public servant, Calvin's illustrious career in emergency management began with the American Red Cross and FEMA, culminating in nearly two decades as NYCEM's First Deputy Commissioner. In 1996, he joined the NYC Mayor's Office of Emergency Management and was among the first emergency management personnel to respond to the tragic events of September 11, 2001 as he was already on-site. There, he supervised OEM's operational response during the fire and collapse of the World Trade Center. From 2002 until his retirement in 2019, Calvin faithfully served as NYCEM's inaugural First Deputy Commissioner, advocating for New Yorkers in times of crisis. Under his guidance, NYCEM evolved from a small team of 20 under the Mayor's Office to a robust independent department with over 200 employees. Every emergency manager who crossed through the doors learned invaluable lessons from Calvin's leadership, experience, and unwavering commitment. His legacy lives on in the aptly named **Calvin Drayton Situation Room** at NYCEM headquarters.



Happy Lunar New Year!



[Click here or more information on Lunar New Year](#)

Last Call for High School Students to be Commissioner for a Day!

**Be the next
*Commissioner For a Day 2024***

NYC Emergency Management

The time is now! Encourage your favorite high schooler to apply for the chance to lead NYC's Emergency Management team for a Day!

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!



MONDAY RADIO ROLL CALL

Borough Channel
Manhattan

2/12/2024
Bronx

Call Scenario

Is your team's 700 MHz radio being rotated?

Documents to Review:

[Citywide Radio Drill Refresher](#)

[Call signs per Radio](#)



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



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

Are you passionate about public service?

Apply to spend a day with our Commissioner at our headquarters!
You'll get to meet NYCEM staff, visit the city's Emergency Operations Center, and more!

· NYCEM Instagram Post

The final date for application submissions has been extended to **February 14, 2024!**

All New York City high school students are invited to participate in the fourth annual NYC Emergency Management "Commissioner for a Day" essay contest. Entrants must submit an original essay and complete the application attached below. The NYC Emergency Management Commissioner will select the winner who will be invited to participate in the Commissioner for a Day ceremony.

[Send in your essays today!](#)

Join in on the Path to Preparedness: Empowering Community Action!

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN! Attend Our 12th Annual Community Preparedness Symposium on March 6, 2024



JOIN US AT THE



12th Annual Community Preparedness Symposium
**Path to Preparedness:
Empowering Community Action**

Baruch College, New York, NY
Wednesday, March 6th, 2024 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
<https://bit.ly/2024CPSymposium>

For help registering or requests regarding accessibility
Email: communityprep@oem.nyc.gov
or Call: (718) 422-4654 by February 21st



Scan here to RSVP

[Registration | Wed, March 6, 2024 9AM - 3PM](#)

**Congratulations to A. Phillip Randolph Center
– The award winner of the 2024 Older Adult**

QUIZ



Each week we will propose a quiz question that relates back to lessons learned during NYC CERT training or from your experience as an active member. The answer will be revealed in the following week's newsletter.

Last week's question:

A CERT member's behavior is making you feel uncomfortable. What can you do if it continues?

Correct Answer(s): **A)** Alert NYCEM CERT Staff to address the situation with the member. *80% of you answered correctly!* You should never have to feel uncomfortable. If on deployment please let your CERT Lead know of the circumstances and alert CERT Staff to take care of the situation in a discreet manner. We do not want members to have a bad experience or become jaded due to the actions of one person. You should not have to abandon activities that you enjoy because of someone else's bad behavior. You can email or call us, or simply book an appointment to discuss this with us.

You don't feel supported by your leadership but want to follow the communication structure. You

A) tell your leadership member exactly how you feel, in no uncertain terms

B) book an appointment with a CERT

Center of the Year!



New York City Emergency Management and the New York City Department for the Aging (DFTA) presented Action for the Retired Community (ARC) A. Philip Randolph Older Adult Center with the Ready New York Older Adult Center of the Year Award during a ceremony on Tuesday, January 30. The 11th annual award recognizes an older adult center in the five boroughs that have made an ongoing commitment to preparing older adults for emergencies. The award ceremony included remarks from NYCEM Commissioner Zach Iscol, and DFTA Commissioner Lorraine A. Cortés-Vázquez, distribution of readiness kits, and cake. The center held a Go Bag competition judged by DFTA Commissioner Cortés-Vázquez to display the older adults' knowledge in emergency preparedness.

ARC A. Philip Randolph Older Adult Center, located in Manhattan, received the award for their excellence in preparing their community for emergencies. ARC A. Philip Randolph Older Adult provides many critical services to neighborhood residents, including computer literacy training, exercise and Zumba classes, and games and recreation pods. More of their outstanding programs and activities included ongoing emergency preparedness classes, crime prevention classes from their local police precinct, and regular visits from the local firehouse and scheduled fire drills. The center is also an official New York City Cooling Center, meaning when the city is experiencing extreme heat, older adults can seek refuge at the facility to 'beat the heat.'

"We are thrilled to honor the ARC A. Philip Randolph Older Adult Center. Older adult centers are pivotal in providing an array of programs and services to their communities," said NYC Emergency Management Commissioner Zach Iscol. "We were extremely impressed with the center's continuous effort in conducting emergency preparedness classes and being an official New York City Cooling Center. Thanks to the center's dedication to emergency preparedness, we know older adults in this community are better prepared. Beyond its exemplary commitment, this center truly shines as a vibrant oasis in the uptown Manhattan and Harlem community, standing as a testament to its vital role in fostering support, engagement, and community spirit among its residents."

- NYCEM Community Preparedness Biweekly Newsletter 02/07/2024

Staff member to discuss the issue and ask for their support

C) Tell your Communications Liaison

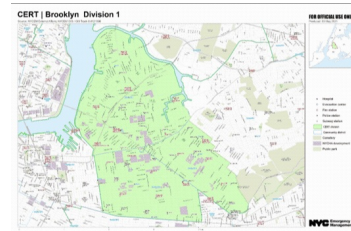
D) Call 411 to report



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

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

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](#) - [Queens](#) - [Staten Island](#)

Credentials Are In!



Leadership: Division 1 members' credentials are ready for pick-up! Also, if you have any members that graduated in July 2023 (cycle 44), please remember to schedule a pick-up, or permit them to schedule a pick-up for their permanent ID using this link: <https://on.nyc.gov/CERTpickup>

If the pick-up options do not work with your schedule, please reach out to: desposito@oem.nyc.gov.

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.

Leave a Legacy of Preparedness



Start your legacy plan that will allow peace of mind for you and your family. Practicing your emergency response plan before a real emergency is part of the formula for true preparedness. Involve the entire family and stay on the same page to help guarantee a smooth transition from preparedness to ACTION!

Stay prepared and ready. Keep track of your legacy plan with the [2024 Preparedness Calendar](#).



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](#).

NYC is no stranger to natural disasters. Each time we experience one, we learn how to make our city stronger and safer. The NYC Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP), updated every five years, outlines these new strategies, as well as steps we can take to reduce our risk.

In this webinar, NYC Emergency Management will showcase the 2024 NYC HMP, describing the hazards facing NYC and sharing tools to help you understand your risk and ways to prepare and stay safe. We

welcome your feedback on all aspects of the plan. Check out the plan and leave your comments at nyc-hazard-mitigation.com. Anyone can give feedback on the HMP during the public comment period, which closes **March 5, 2024**.



HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN WEBINAR

We'll discuss:

- What is a Hazard Mitigation Plan? What's in it?
- Tools to understand your risk from hazards (with a special focus on flooding).
- Actions you can take to reduce your risk of flood damage.

February 22 at 11 AM

on.nyc.gov/HMPwebinar

[Registration | February 22, 2024 11AM](#)

Send Us Your Photos!





Please continue to share an and all photos and videos from your NYC CERT events at 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. Thank you!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



POWER OUTAGE PREP WEBINAR WITH CONED

Learn:

- HOW TO PREPARE FOR A POWER OUTAGE
- WHAT TO DO WHEN THE POWER GOES OUT
- HOW TO REPORT AN OUTAGE
- AND MORE!

February 14 at 10 AM

bit.ly/ConEd_OutagePrep

NYCEM Webinar Series

Join NYC Emergency Management and ConEdison on February 14, 2024 at 10AM to discuss how you can prepare for power outages. Topics covered will include:

- How to prepare for an outage
- What to do while the power is out
- How to report an outage
- How to file a claim for spoiled food or medication
- How to use the ConEdison outage map
- How to stay informed
- Tips on [tree](#) trimming & water leaks

[Registration | Wed, Feb 14, 2024 10AM](#)

Winter Clothing Packing at NYCEM Warehouse

NYC CERT will organize and pack winter weather clothing items to be distributed later to on-site Asylum Seeker Clients.



[Registration | Wed, Feb 21, 2024 12:30PM](#)



Manhattan Chinese New Year Parade

NYC CERT will march alongside NYCEM staff during the Chinese New Year Parade.

[Registration | Sun, Feb 25, 2024 12:15PM](#)

CERT Basic Training Disaster Simulation Support - Live Victim

CERT volunteers will be playing victims in the disaster simulation, which may include sitting or laying on the ground and acting in distress.

[Registration | Mon, March 18, 2024 6:30PM](#)

[Registration | Tues, March 19, 2024 6:30PM](#)



Bay Ridge St. Patrick's Day Parade

CERT volunteers will assist the NYPD 68th precinct community affairs Office with pedestrian and vehicle traffic control.

[Registration | Sun, March 24, 2024 12PM](#)



FEMA Region 2 Webinar Series

CERT Volunteers and the EOC

Please join the Region 2 National Preparedness Division for a webinar on Until Help Arrives.

[Registration | Wed, Feb 28, 2024 1PM](#)



FEMA Region 2 Webinar Series

How to Keep CERT Training Fun & Engaging

Please join the Region 2 and Region 8 National Preparedness Division for a webinar on how to Keep CERT Training Fun & Engaging.

[Registration | Wed, March 13, 2024 1PM](#)

NYC CERT CALENDAR



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



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.

ADVANCED TRAINING



Radiological/Nuclear WMD Awareness

NY State Homeland Security & Emergency Services provides fundamental knowledge regarding recognition of the threat or incident on Thursday, February 15, 2024.

How to sign up?

1. If you do not have a DHSES account please create one here: [DHSES LMS New Account Request](#)
2. Under DHSES available trainings search for: Introduction to Radiological/Nuclear WMD Operations (AWR-140) (04-20-0140) - 007
3. Fill out the questionnaire to register (No forms needed to attach)
4. Under additional contact information/supervisor information enter: CERTtraining@oem.nyc.gov
5. Submit Request

[Event Registration instructions and more information](#)

NYC CERT VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY

Queens Division 6 Monthly Team Meeting



Smoke Alarms

- Smoke Alarms should be installed on every level of your home and outside each sleeping area and in areas where pets are.
- Never disable a smoke alarm, even if you experience nuisance alarms while cooking or showering. Instead, use the alarm's "hush" button.
- Use the test button to test your smoke alarms monthly.
- Replace the batteries at least once a year or if they begin to chirp.
- Replace your smoke alarms every 10 years.

Participants visible in the meeting grid include: Rhonda Kontner, Anthony Escoto (NYCEM), Dr. Inayat Washington, Teri Cacho, Sandra Adams, Shmuel, Peggy-Anne Forde, Isatou Jallow, Adjoa Gzifa, Yvette S, Denise Walker, Cory Wright, Gregory, and Elder Lisa Qualey.

Queens Division 6 held their monthly team meeting on February 5, 2024. They discussed team cohesiveness and conducted a fire safety presentation.

Brooklyn Leadership Monthly Meeting



Participants visible in the meeting grid include: Delores Smith-Johnson, Anthony Escoto (NYCEM), Lisa Mauser (NYCEM), Gargya Mathan, Albert Khalifeh, Edda G. Mendez, Joseph St John, Craig Div 3, Ismail Mansah, and Regina Wilson.

Brooklyn Leadership convened virtually on Tuesday, February 6, 2024. They discussed upcoming events, using the CERT newsletter as a resource, creating Division calendars, reminders, continued support for past events and more. Delores Johnson, Brooklyn Division 1, performed Division-wide Buddy check to all members with 100% contact. Way to stay active and connected, Team.

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

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](#)



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



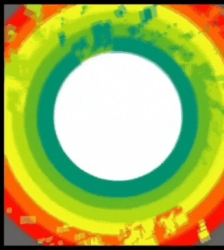
[Resolve to Be Ready Calendar](#)
Regular reminders in simple steps that can help you work preparedness into your busy schedule.



Listen to the 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



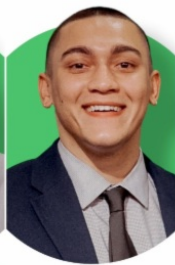
ANTHONY ESCOTO
Program Manager
Training & Exercises



DENISE ESPOSITO
Specialist
Recruitment & Retention



REGINA WILSON
Specialist
CERT Leadership



GABRIEN ZERVOS
Specialist
Operations & Engagement



AMY JOY ROBATEAU
AmeriCorps
Member



JAZMIN THOMAS
Specialist
CERT Training



Schedule a meeting with NYC CERT Staff:
<https://on.nyc.gov/bookCERT>

Choose a Topic:

[CERT Pick-up
\(In-Person\)](#)

[NYC CERT
Operations](#)

[Advanced
Training](#)

[Exercises
& Tabletops](#)

[General
Questions](#)

[CERT ID
Questions](#)

[Leadership
Interest](#)

[Borough
Discussion](#)

[Division
Discussion](#)



NYC Emergency Management | [NYC.gov/emergencymanagement](https://nyc.gov/emergencymanagement)
[\(Click here to view as a webpage\)](#)



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

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