

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.



NYC Emergency Management Chief of Staff Yokarina Duarte Thank You Letter

Dear CERT members,

As the summer winds down and we embark on the new challenges the fall and winter seasons will bring, I want to thank you for your time, work, and dedication to the CERT program. Together, we have accomplished so much over the past few months: educating thousands of New Yorkers on emergency preparedness, aiding emergency responses in every borough, supporting the city through challenging activations, and helping to make the season's largest community events safe and successful. This would not have been possible without you, and we are so grateful for your support and assistance.

Just this summer alone, our CERT volunteers led over 2030 Ready NY presentations across the city, which 42 of those events were during the 2023 National Night Out and helped us meet the goal of making New Yorkers better prepared for emergencies in so many ways. CERT was activated 50 times from June through August, often covering shifts after work and sacrificing family time to ensure our communities have the resources needed during times of crisis. Your hard work, dedication, promptness, and willingness to assist us in the best and worst of times is deeply appreciated by all of us at NYC Emergency Management and by all the New Yorkers you selflessly serve.

And yet, in a city that never sleeps, there is more work ahead and undoubtedly more emergencies that will require the commitment, skills, and altruism of our CERT members. September is National Preparedness Month,



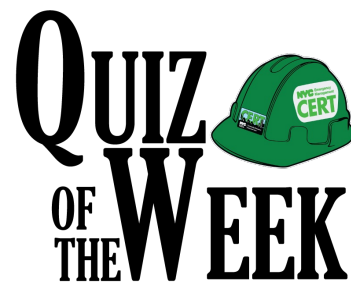
MONDAY RADIO ROLL CALL

09/04 : Labor Day No Call

Documents to Review:

[Citywide Radio Drill Refresher](#)

[Call signs per Radio](#)



Each week we will have a survey with questions that relates back to lessons learned during NYC CERT training or your experience as a member. The answer will be revealed in the following week's newsletter. Good Luck!

[**CLICK HERE FOR THIS WEEK'S QUESTION**](#)

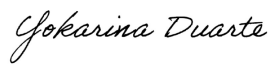
Last week's question: What is the most efficient way to contact NYC Emergency Management staff to ask questions relating to advanced Training, developing

and we have a [calendar](#) full of events and goals to prepare many more New Yorkers for emergencies. We would not be able to fulfill our mission to help New Yorkers before, during, and after emergencies through preparedness, education, and response without you. I know many of you are ready to embark on that journey and proudly wear your green polo shirt and khaki pants to represent us at the events we will be hosting. If you'd like to get involved in National Preparedness Month events, check out volunteer opportunities here: [NYC CERT Events Calendar](#) We are very grateful for your support and proud to have you all as partners in the upcoming months.

We know that your work as CERT volunteers can be demanding, and I want to remind everyone to please take care of yourselves. Take breaks when needed, and make sure that you support your well-being. Taking care of your own needs ensures that you will be best able to help and serve others.

We can't always predict the challenges that we'll face ahead, but we know that as always, you will rise to the occasion to help your communities. Thanks again for all your hard work and support!

Sincerely,
Yokarina Duarte
Chief of Staff



Empire State Building Commemorates NYC CERT and Ready New York 20th Year Anniversary



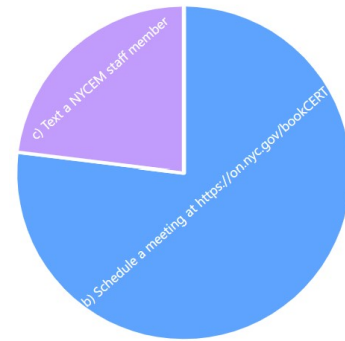
NYC Emergency Management Commissioner Zach Iscol announced yesterday that the iconic Empire State Building, would be lit green and yellow, to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the NYC Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and the Ready New York programs, and to celebrate the beginning of National Preparedness Month.

“Illuminating the Empire State Building in green and yellow shines a light on the

extraordinary dedication of countless volunteers and city personnel,” said **NYC Emergency Management Commissioner Zach Iscol**. “For two decades, their service as members of NYC Community Response Teams and the Ready NY program have served as the lifesaving cornerstone of our city’s preparedness.”

“We’re thrilled to shine our tower lights to celebrate NYC Emergency Management’s milestone anniversary,” said **Jean-Yves Ghazi, President, Empire State Building Observatory**. “Our world-famous tower lights will shine as a thank you and a tribute to the personnel responsible for this organization’s and its team’s critical work before, during and after emergencies.”

a tabletop exercise, or checking on the status of your NYC CERT ID?



The correct answer is **b) Schedule a meeting at**

<https://on.nyc.gov/bookCERT>

NYCEM staff has Bookings, a tool for NYC CERT members to easily schedule time to speak with staff virtually to discuss a range of topics including, advanced training, developing an exercise for your division, and your interest in serving as a volunteer leader. Through this tool, you can also schedule In-Person pick-ups for your updated NYC CERT ID. This new scheduling application links directly to NYCEM staff's work calendar, making it easier than

Schedule a meeting today!

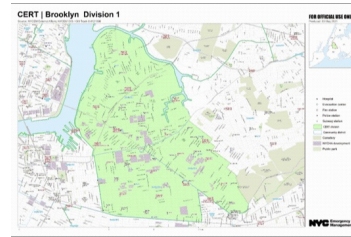


[View and Download the Complete NYC CERT Basic Training Student Manual](#)



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

August After Action Review



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!](#)

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

As the Chief of Staff mentioned we want to extend a huge thank you to all of our CERT volunteers who showed up and made the month of August a success. Starting with the National Night Out Against Crime, our volunteers demonstrated their preparedness and dedication to keeping our communities safe. The month continued with several planned events throughout the city, showcasing the commitment of our volunteers to serve their communities.

One of the highlights of the month was the 2023 Rise Up Day of Action, where our volunteers utilized new technology to enhance the volunteer experience. The success of this event is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our CERT volunteers, who continue to go above and beyond to serve their communities.

We are proud of the dedication and performance of our amazing CERT volunteers and look forward to continuing to work together to keep our communities safe. Thank you again to all who came out during the hot month of August to support our mission.

NYC Emergency Management Hazard Mitigation Plan Update



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.

2024 NYC
HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN:

The City's plan for assessing hazards that pose a risk to its people and infrastructure, and strategies for reducing the impacts of emergency events.

NYC was one of the first jurisdictions to house its plan on a public, interactive website.

To learn more, go to www.nychazardmitigation.com

NYC Emergency Management (NYCEM) is currently in the planning process for the next plan update for May 2024.

We want to hear from you!

Use the QR code below to provide your input for the 2024 NYC Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

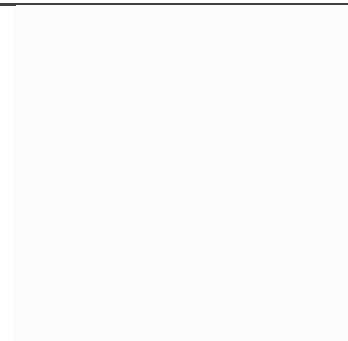







Get Notified with New York City's official source for information about emergency alerts and important city services.

Download the free [Notify NYC](#) mobile app, available for [iOS](#) and [Android](#).



You can use the above QR code or [CLICK HERE](#) to provide your input. New York City thanks you!

CERT Mass Notification Test Day: September 19



NYC Emergency Management has scheduled a test of the mass notification system on September 19, between 1 PM and 3:30 PM. The purpose of this test is to ensure that the tool is functioning properly in the case of a large-scale emergency event. CERT members are not expected to take any action other than to ensure that their contact information is up to date.

Help us Celebrate 20 Years of NYC CERT

Send us your CERT photos and videos!

We have created a link for you to easily upload your collection of CERT related photos and videos



from your time in the program.

You may upload several items per event/deployment, but only a maximum of three per submission. After submitting, there will be an option to submit three more!

You can scan the accompanying QR code or use this link: on.nyc.gov/CERTupload

Please label the files in the following manner: **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 ACTIVITY



46th Annual Brighton Jubilee

Brooklyn Division 7 members attended the Holy Family fair, to make sure local residents were informed on emergency preparedness. They were accompanied by Assemblypersons Jaime Williams and Monique Chandler-Waterman, who have been strong supporters of the NYC CERT program.

Gracie Mansion's Arab Reception

Manhattan Division 3 CERT member, Bernadette Nader, participated at this recent Gracie Mansion event, which allowed her to play a supporting role while also connecting with her cultural background. Thanks for your help, Bernadette!



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



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Gracie Mansion Cultural Receptions

The Mayor's office of Special Projects and Community events; Asked for CERT will help with guest and line management.

More events will be available soon!

National Preparedness Month Events



National Preparedness Month

Emergency Preparedness Awareness Fair Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 1:00 PM

MSH EM Preparedness Month Tabling Event Thu, Sep 14, 2023 at 10:00 AM

Det. Keith L. Williams Foundation Back to School Extravaganza Sat, Sep 16, 2023 at 12:00 PM

WorkWell NYC Fair Wed, Sep 20, 2023 at 11:00 AM

Staten Island Children's Museum Event Sun, Sep 24, 2023 at 11:00 AM

Pets and Service Animals Preparedness Event Thu, Sep 28, 2023 at 10:00

NYC CERT CALENDAR



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.

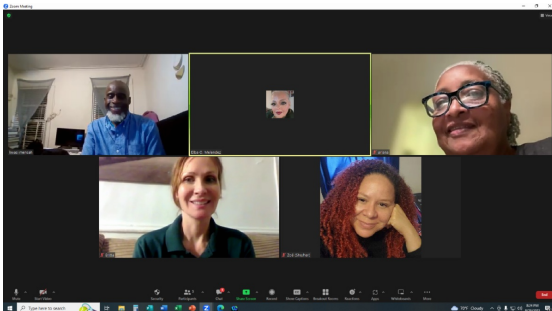
Complete the [Matching Questionnaire](#) to help pair the mentor to a mentee. Both forms must be filled out to participate in the program.

[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.

Monthly Meetings



Brooklyn Division 4

Led by Division Chief, Kwasi and Brooklyn Borough Coordinator Elba. The Division is starting to pick up momentum with new volunteers bringing in fresh ideas and new engagement opportunities. Great job everyone!

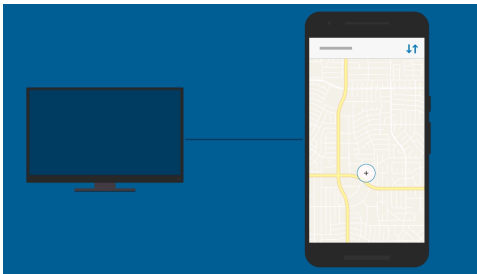
Brooklyn Division 1

We're closing out the summer with a bang! The division

has supported several preparedness and recruitment events organized by the Division Chief and other members. Delores also took some time to share her experience with the Day of Action Canvassing. Thanks all!



ADVANCED TRAINING



NYC Emergency Management introduced Field Maps, a new tool that will revolutionize the way we approach canvassing deployments. With Field Maps, canvassers will have access to real-time data, advanced mapping tools, and efficient routing options to optimize their canvassing efforts.

Whether you are a seasoned canvasser or new to the field, Field Maps will help you work smarter and more effectively.

[View Recording](#)

Recording Passcode: [k@E1ritO](#)

THINGS TO KNOW

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](#)



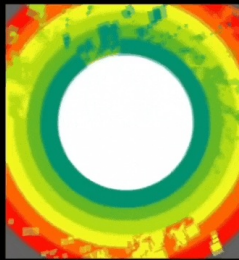
[Resolve to Be Ready Calendar](#)
Regular reminders in simple steps that can help you work preparedness into your busy schedule.



Listen to the 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.



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CERT



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



NYC Emergency Management | [NYC.gov/emergencymanagement](https://nyc.gov/emergencymanagement)

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



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