

**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.**

## CERT Safety

In light of the potential protests happening throughout the City, we want to continue to remind you to always be aware of your surroundings; particularly when traveling to and from a CERT event/deployment. While traveling, you can dress down or keep any NYC logos on your outerwear or change into your uniform when arriving on site. If at any time you feel unsafe while volunteering, please exercise caution and remove yourself from that situation. You should notify the CERT lead and/or NYC Emergency Management.

Stay safe.



The NYC Employee Assistance Program (EAP) wants to express our sadness and concern for the war in Israel and Palestine.

We understand how many of our NYC colleagues have very personal concerns for the events taking place. Many have family and friends directly impacted and we are keeping them in our thoughts, prayers, hearts and minds.

As always, we want to remind you that **you do not have to be alone**. The NYC EAP wants to be a support to you and your family members.

Please keep us in mind as a source of help. Call or email to speak to an EAP counselor.

During these troubling times, we want to remind you that due to your affiliation with NYC Emergency Management, all active NYC CERT members have the same access as any NYC employee. For more information on how NYC EAP can help you, visit [nyc.gov/eap](https://nyc.gov/eap)

## NYC CERT Citywide Notification Drill - 10/17



### MONDAY RADIO ROLL CALL

**Borough Channel:**

**CERT BK**

**10/23 Responding Borough:**

No Response

**Call Scenario:** Report out how many team

members are trained in snow measurers.

Documents to Review:

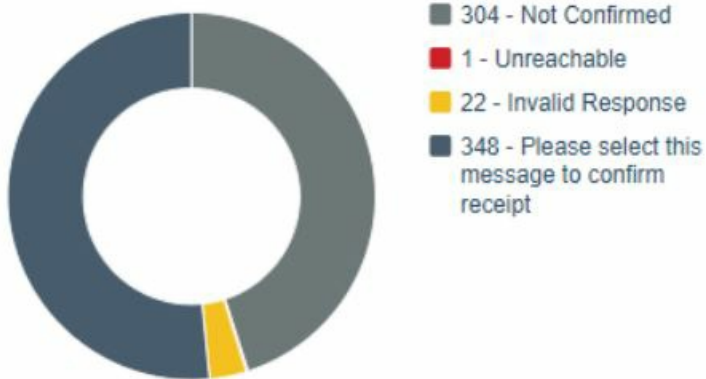
[Citywide Radio Drill Refresher](#)

[Call signs per Radio](#)



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. Good Luck!

**[CLICK HERE FOR THIS](#)**



The results of Tuesday's NYC CERT Citywide Notification Drill shows the following recipient data:

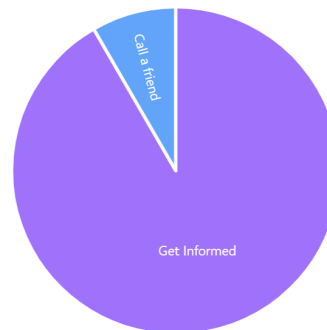
- 348 confirmed
- 304 unconfirmed
- 22 invalid member responses

Thank you for participating in this drill that provides an opportunity to alert membership citywide in case of an emergency and potential need for support.

**Contact Information Updates**

To be sure that we have the most up-to-date contact information for all of our NYC CERT members, please contact your division leadership if there has been any change to your email, phone number and/or name this year, or if you are expecting to change any of this information in the near future. We ask that leadership send all updated contact information for members to [cert@oem.nyc.gov](mailto:cert@oem.nyc.gov). *Note: If the leadership position is currently vacant in your division, or you have any trouble contacting your leadership, please send contact info updates directly to [cert@oem.nyc.gov](mailto:cert@oem.nyc.gov).* It is important for all CERT volunteers to have access to the newsletter and any communications from NYCEM and leadership. Thank you.

Previous question: NYC CERT members help to educate their communities on how to prepare for emergencies by distributing the My Emergency Plan, and discussing the three main topics everyone should do to prepare; namely, Make a Plan, Pack a Go-bag and



The correct answer is: **B) Get Informed**  
The key word here is, "prepare". Just like making a plan and packing your go-bag, you will want to do some research ahead of time, so you know before you go. There are several websites and links to resources available at the back of the [Ready New York: My Emergency Plan booklet](#). Practicing your plan is another important part to your research. It will help to identify any issues with your plan.



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

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## October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month



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

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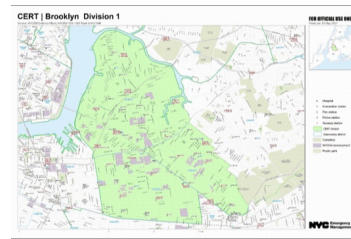
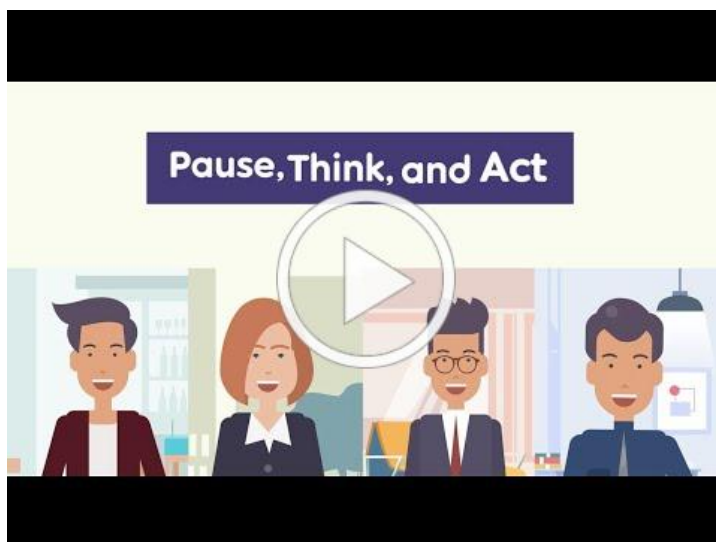


The term cybersecurity has become more common as the world moves toward a heavy dependency on utilizing the internet for communication and commerce. Common terms you may already be familiar with are *Phishing*, *Multi-factor Authentication (MFA)*, and *Malware*.

Here are more terms for situational awareness as you use the internet:

1. **Internet of Things (IoT) - IoT** refers to commonplace items that connect to the internet and are capable of autonomously collecting and transferring data without requiring human input.
2. **Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) - DDoS** is a hacker tool that uses multiple hosts and users to bombard a website with a tidal wave of requests that locks up the system and forces a temporary shut down.
3. **Clickjacking** - can be used to enable the user's webcam, install malware, or access one of their online accounts by tricking the user into clicking on one object on a web page when they wanted to click on another object.
4. **Social Engineering** - is a growingly popular way to access restricted resources that does not require technical hacking techniques. This strategy relies on user's trust, and works on understanding what motivates a person's actions to retrieve private information under the guise of a trusted source.

We can all collaborate to build a safer, more trusted digital world! Visit <https://www.cisa.gov/secure-our-world> for more information.



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](#).

# 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.

## Protecting Places of Worship Webinar



The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, developed the [Protecting Places of Worship: Six Steps to Enhance Security Against Targeted Violence Fact Sheet](#) to outline actions that faith-based organizations and community leaders can take to increase security, focusing on six overarching steps. Learn how to apply for a [Nonprofit Security Grant](#) for your Faith Based organization, or attend an upcoming [webinar](#) for guidance.



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](#).

## Older Adult Preparedness

A purple graphic with gold laurel wreaths on the sides. At the top, it says "OLDER ADULT CENTER OF THE YEAR!". Below that, a white rounded rectangle contains the text: "Nominate a center to receive an award that embodies the spirit of preparedness in their work." There is a list of five criteria, each with a white square checkbox on the left and a dashed line to the right:

- Hosted a presentation on emergency preparedness
- Developed an emergency preparedness plan and test it regularly
- Ensure staff receive adequate training and resources to stay safe
- Promoted preparedness in the community via activities related to emergency preparedness
- Provided educational materials including My Emergency Plan, Notify NYC, & Pet Preparedness

At the bottom, there is a dark blue rounded rectangle with the URL "https://bit.ly/RNY\_OACA" in white. Below the URL are the logos for "NYC Emergency Management" and "READY NEW YORK". A pink arrow points to the URL.

Each year, NYC Emergency Management's Ready New York program awards an Older Adult Center for their dedication to emergency preparedness among their membership. We ask that if you're affiliated in any way with a local center, please help support this effort to better prepare all members of the community by introducing them to Ready New York and then nominate them for their efforts once they complete the above tasks.

## Send Us Your Photos!



Help us celebrate 20 years of CERT in New York City by sending us your photos and videos from your event at [on.nyc.gov/CERTupload](https://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!

[Download Photos from the Gracie Mansion Anniversary Event](#)

## Have Questions? Let's Chat!



NYC CERT members have access to NYC CERT program staff for support. While your first step in answering program-related questions should be to speak with your volunteer leadership, you can always schedule a meeting or even a quick chat with program staff to answer questions, note concerns, provide suggestions, or even to tell us how wonderful of a job we're doing...

You can book a meeting here:  
<https://on.nyc.gov/bookCERT>

You may choose from the following services (direct links):

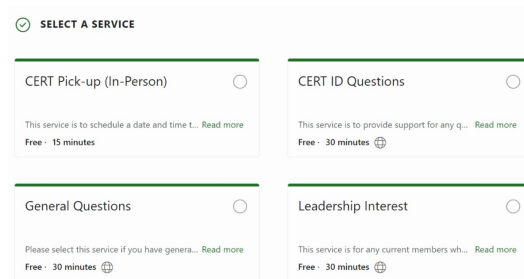
[CERT Pick-up \(In-Person\)](#)  
[General Questions](#)  
[CERT ID Questions](#)

[Advanced Training Exercises/ Tabletops](#)  
[NYC CERT Operations](#)

[Leadership Interest](#)  
[Division Discussion](#)  
[Borough Discussion](#)

After selecting the service (topic) you will be provided a calendar view with accompanying dates and times for staff availability. A staff member with specific knowledge of the chosen service will be assigned to the scheduled meeting.

Upon booking this meeting, you will receive an email confirmation to the email address provided. If something comes up or you are unable to attend the meeting, just send an email to [cert@oem.nyc.gov](mailto:cert@oem.nyc.gov)



SELECT A SERVICE	
<b>CERT Pick-up (In-Person)</b> <input type="radio"/>	<b>CERT ID Questions</b> <input type="radio"/>
<small>This service is to schedule a date and time L... Read more Free - 15 minutes</small>	<small>This service is to provide support for any q... Read more Free - 30 minutes</small>
<b>General Questions</b> <input type="radio"/>	<b>Leadership Interest</b> <input type="radio"/>
<small>Please select this service if you have genera... Read more Free - 30 minutes</small>	<small>This service is for any current members wh... Read more Free - 30 minutes</small>

letting us know and you can go through the scheduling process again to find a new date and time.

October 11

DATE TIME

< > October 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	10:00 AM	10:30 AM	11:00 AM
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	11:30 AM	2:00 PM	2:30 PM
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	4:30 PM
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	5:00 PM	5:30 PM	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
29	30	31							

## Hazard Mitigation Survey



Share your thoughts:

*What natural hazards are you concerned about?*

*Your feedback helps us craft our Hazard Mitigation Plan, helping to prepare for and prevent future disasters.*

Fill out the survey at  
**[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)**



## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



### Mount Saini Queens Full Scale Exercise Support

Mount Saini Queens is conducting a Mass Casualty Incident Drill as part of their emergency preparedness. CERT volunteers will participate as victims of the mass casualty.

[Registration](#) | **Wed, Oct 25, 2023 at 10 AM**

## Gracie Mansion Halloween Reception

At the request of the Mayor's Office for Special Projects and Community events, CERT volunteers will assist with pedestrian and line traffic management during both Halloween receptions.

[Registration | Sat, Oct 28, 2023 at 12 PM](#)

[Registration | Sun, Oct 29, 2023 at 12 PM](#)



## Halloween Festival at Owl's Head Park

CERT volunteers will be assisting the 68th Precinct with crowd control and safety issues at the Halloween Festival at Owl's Head Park in Dyker Heights.

[Registration, Sun, Oct 29, 2023 at 12:30 PM](#)

## Ghostbusters AAR Table Top Exercise

### Exercise Objectives:

- Review Supernatural response
- AAR of Supernatural hazard
- Individual preparedness
- NYC CERT role in supernatural hazard
  - Preparedness
  - Response
  - Recovery



[Registration | Wed, Nov 1, 2023 at 6:30 PM](#)

# 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



## **NYC** Emergency Management **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.

## ADVANCED TRAINING



### Active Shooter Preparedness Webinar

[Registration, Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 1:00PM](#)

#### Learning Objectives:

- Discuss the elements of active shooter incident response planning with guidance from expert instructors.
- 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.

[Emergency Operations Center/  
Reporting & NYCEM Watch Command  
Overview](#)



**Learning Objectives:**

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



## NYC CERT Volunteer Activity

### Bronx Division 2 Interfaith Outreach

On Saturday, October 14, 2023, Bronx Division 2 engaged with the Nigerian interfaith network. They spotlighted the importance of being educated on emergency preparedness and emergency mitigation. Preparedness literature was provided and distributed to the community.



### Point to Point Radio Advanced Training



CERT members learned radio terminology, call protocol and proper communication procedures using UHF 450MHZ radios Sunday, October 15th. The mandatory outdoor exercise gave them an opportunity to perform best practices as newly trained Point to Point Radio operators. Simultaneously, at headquarters, citywide radio trained members were guided, by the Radio Committee, as they explored the challenges and protocols of controlling the citywide radio network as Network Control Operators (NCOs).



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### Ready NY Super Wellness Wednesday Fair

Brooklyn Division 1's District Leader, Chaplain Delores Smith-Johnson, and Brooklyn Division 3, Sister Karriemah Muqueet, show the camaraderie of CERT, as they table at the Ready NY Super Wellness preparedness event held on Wednesday, October 18th, at the Cornerstone Baptist Church.



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### NYC Disabilities Sapolin Awards on October 19th

CERT and Commissioner Iscol were on the scene, at Gracie Mansion, as NYC Disabilities acknowledges and honors leaders in disability inclusion, last Thursday evening.

NYCEM's X post read, "a big salute to our NYC CERT volunteers whose dedicated efforts...elevates these events. Their service is a beacon of community inclusion and resilience."

<https://www.nyc.gov/site/mopd/events/sapolin-accessibility-awards.page>

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### Manhattan Division 4 Monthly Team Meeting



Manhattan Division 4 held a hybrid monthly team meeting on Thursday, October 19th, at 6:30pm.



[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 submits form on behalf of the event organizer.

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](#)



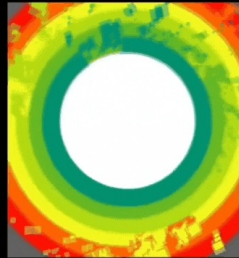
[NYCEM's YouTube page](#)  
[NYC CERT recruitment video](#)  
[2021 National Volunteer Week video](#)



[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.



**JOSEPH PUPELLO**  
*Director*  
Volunteer Programs



**ANTHONY ESCOTO**  
*Program Manager*  
Training & Exercises



**DENISE ESPOSITO**  
*Specialist*  
Recruitment & Retention



**REGINA WILSON**  
*Specialist*  
CERT Leadership



**AMY JOY ROBATEAU**  
*AmeriCorps*  
Member



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

[General Questions](#)

[NYC CERT Operations](#)

[CERT ID Renewal](#)

[Leadership Interest](#)

[Training Exercises](#)





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

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