



San Diego County CERT Council Code of Conduct



1. Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members must be officially deployed and assigned to work in an official capacity by their CERT Program Manager or designee in order to participate in the California Disaster Service Worker Volunteer Program.
2. CERT members will only undertake activities that are within their physical capabilities, within the scope of their training, and will not take risks that are likely to cause injury to themselves or others.
3. CERT members may not participate in any CERT activities, including training, exercises, meetings or special events, if under the influence of alcohol or drugs including non-prescription drugs.
4. Use of, or carrying of, any firearms or other weapons (solely intended to cause injury to others) is strictly prohibited by any member involved in CERT activities. This includes prior to, and during trainings, exercises, meetings, and special events.
5. CERT I.D. cards, vests and hard hats will only be worn during official CERT activated activities.
6. Equipment and emergency gear issued to CERT members must be maintained in good working condition, and must be stored in a place that will prevent items from being used by unauthorized persons.
7. CERT members will not use their membership in this program or their identification cards to gain favors, preferential treatment, or to influence others for any purpose other than emergency preparedness.
8. CERT members must not receive compensation for any services rendered during their time of activation.
9. CERT members will not operate any vehicles or machinery not owned by them, unless assigned to do so by professional first responders or city employees.
10. CERT members will not represent themselves in a capacity that exceeds their status in their CERT Program.
11. CERT members will follow their Chain of Command at all times and act in a professional manner that is not only a positive reflection of their CERT Program and Sponsoring Agency, but also adheres to their CERT Program's and Sponsoring Agency's policies and procedures.
12. CERT members will comply with the California Disaster Service Worker Volunteer Program which can provide workers' compensation insurance coverage and limited immunity from liability. The California Disaster Service Worker Volunteer Program Guidance states in part that Disaster Service Worker immunity from liability does not apply in cases of willful intent, unreasonable acts beyond the scope of DSW training, or if a criminal act is committed.

I, _____, do hereby certify that I have read, understand and agree to abide by the above rules. I understand that failure on my part to comply with any of the rules could result in the termination of my volunteer service on the Community Emergency Response Team. I further understand that if I am removed from service, it is my responsibility to return all issued equipment and materials that I have received from the CERT program. If I fail or refuse to return the equipment or materials, I agree to pay the cost to replace any items not returned.

Member Signature

CERT Program Manager/Designee (witness)

Date