



City of San Diego ♦ San Diego Fire-Rescue Department (CERT) San Diego ♦ (Community Emergency Response Team)

CERT San Diego: *Firefighters and Citizens Working Together to Build Safer Communities.*



Fall 2006 Program News

CERT SAN DIEGO IS HERE TO STAY!

Thanks to Mayor Jerry Sanders and the San Diego City Council, **CERT San Diego** has its first line item funding in the Fire-Rescue budget, effective FY 07, starting July 1, 2006. The CERT San Diego pilot program was started with a \$250,000 grant from the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company in January 2004 after the Cedar Fire disasters struck San Diego. The funding guarantees the CERT program is here to stay, and funds three annual CERT academies, offered tuition-free as a public service to City of San Diego residents. The funding is particularly notable in a year of fiscal challenges for the City and honors the efforts of the volunteer citizens of San Diego, San Diego Fire-Rescue personnel and business sponsors whose enthusiasm has made this program so successful in its first two years. **CERT San Diego** is the City's disaster preparedness program, bringing together community groups, residents, firefighters, City Council districts, businesses, county emergency teams, all working together in America's Finest City.

WWW.CERTSANDIEGO.ORG Visit our website for application forms and much more!

CERT San Diego is a cutting edge program that trains citizen teams to prepare for-- and respond safely to-- disasters. Tuition-free academies are taught by uniformed San Diego Fire-Rescue personnel to City residents. The goal is to better prepare the community for disasters and to form community-based teams to help serve neighborhoods when emergency services are overwhelmed. Disasters such as Hurricane Katrina served to heighten public awareness for this kind of personal preparedness. **CERT San Diego** was created by the Fire-Rescue department after the Cedar Fires devastated San Diego.

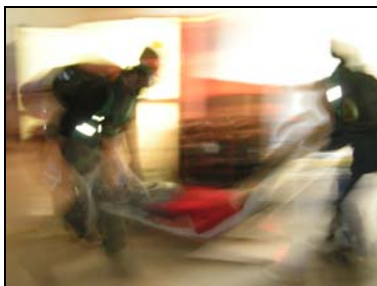


***(L): Qualcomm employees were trained in BERT (Business Emergency Response Team) academies this spring
(R): CERT Academy 8 graduates attend to a victim at their final disaster drill.***



(L Photo): Mayor Jerry Sanders (2nd from L) thanks QUALCOMM executives (L to R) Jim Callaghan- VP of Real Estate and Facilities, Katie Wiest- Sr. Mgr., Operations, and Carey Storm-Director, Operations, for QUALCOMM'S leadership in public service, sponsoring the first fee-based BERT (Business CERT) academies held in San Diego. 77 QUALCOMM employees graduated from this spring training to better aid their office and home communities during disasters on the Q-CERT Team.

(R Photo): Anheuser Busch Sales of San Diego donated two checks to support CERT San Diego. (Pictured L to R): AB's Larry Goemann, CERT San Diego's Barbara Ayers, Denise Cooper, AB General Manager.



(Above): Academy 10 and 11 CERT class action photos (graduation, search and rescue, fire suppression).



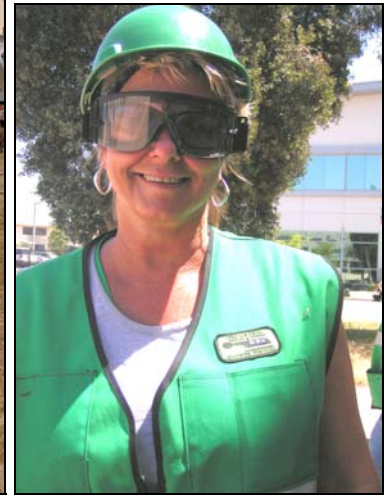
2006 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

In its first two years, CERT San Diego has graduated **542 citizens as certified Disaster Service Workers (national DSW accreditation)** and built **18 community-based CERT teams**, at least one in each of all eight San Diego City Council districts. Initially, citizens impacted by the Cedar fire (Scripps Ranch and Tierrasanta) were the first communities to train and form CERT teams. CERT San Diego's graduation load has increased dramatically over time and we have broadened our reach to include many at risk communities throughout San Diego. Our goal is to reach and teach the City population and to build community based volunteer disaster teams to aid their neighbors when it is needed most.

CERT GRADUATES TO DATE	542
2004 GRADS	97
2005 GRADS	181
Jan-May 2006 CERT academies	264
Fall 2006 – 13 th Academy (Business) - BID Council- SDG&E grant sponsored	
Fall 2006 – 14 th Academy - community class for citizens	
2004 CERT TEAMS	2
2005 CERT TEAMS	10
2006 CERT Teams (June 06)	18

Notable achievements:

- In the first six months of 2006, **CERT San Diego trained more citizens than it did in all of 2004 and 2005 combined**. We nearly tripled our graduate rate of 2004.
- **CERT San Diego broke the 500 graduate mark on May 6, 2006**—with 506 CERT grads; and in June 2006, our graduate **roster now holds 542 certified volunteer Disaster Service Workers (DSW's)**.
- **CERT San Diego recruited and trained its first Business CERT (BERT) academies for QUALCOMM Inc.** this spring. **Special thanks to QUALCOMM for its leadership and support** – fees from these sponsored academies help enhance free community academies. Over 70 Qualcomm employees now serve both their Q-CERT team and local CERT teams where they live. We hope this is only the beginning of CERT San Diego's entrée into the business sector. (Continued on page 4)



(L to R): CERT San Diego Helicopter team members aid volunteer victims to Copter 1; CERT office volunteer Gloria Applegate is active with Mid City CERT and the CERT Helicopter Team, is a trained EMT and Red Cross instructor.

CERT SAN DIEGO HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

- ▶ In March 2006, **CERT San Diego** *graduated an all time high of 142 students in one week*—101 from the volunteer community (Academy 8) and 41 from Qualcomm BERT (Business) training
- ▶ In June 2006, **CERT San Diego** *hosted the region's largest countywide CERT drill* at the San Diego Fire-Rescue training facility with the San Diego County CERT Council, attracting 165 CERT graduates from 16 county jurisdictions.
- ▶ **WWW.CERTSANDIEGO.ORG** *was developed* on the City of San Diego's website with a quick link from the City's home page. This website offers class schedules and application forms, disaster planning information, updates and includes links to other regional CERT programs and services.
- ▶ **CERT San Diego** created a *new fast-tracked academy with online component* to attract the working professional audience and tested a mobile classroom concept at Westfield UTC.
- ▶ **CERT San Diego** *booked a fall 2006 grant-sponsored BERT academy for the BID (Business Improvement District) Council* and its affiliate neighborhood councils, thanks to a grant from SDG& E to offer free training to small business managers and owners throughout the City.
- ▶ With support from **Volunteer San Diego**, CERT San Diego wrote and *received a grant for a fulltime Americorps VISTA volunteer* from the Points of Light Foundation. Recruited CERT 4th Academy graduate **Christine Marcucci** to serve 1 year as **CERT San Diego** VISTA volunteer from Nov. 05-Nov 06. We would not have been able to expand our academies and train the volume of people we did in 2006 without Christine's vital support. We obtained a grant renewal for a new VISTA volunteer and recruited **Ashley Little** of New Hampshire to serve CERT San Diego from August 06-August 07.



Academy 8 in March 2006 was our largest class in CERT history with 101 citizen graduates!!!

CERT SAN DIEGO HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

- ▶ **CERT San Diego** presented safety message to business and community groups and staffed booths at public events – approximately **100 appearances per year**.
- ▶ **CERT San Diego** graduates **offered substantial volunteer support for the multi-agency USAR (Urban Search and Rescue) CA-8 Task Force**, staffing 35 shifts to support deployed USAR team members and assisting with their return from Hurricane Katrina in 2005. In 2006, CERT volunteers staffed 40 shifts over an eleven day period to support USAR Cache management needs. A USAR volunteer team is now on call to support USAR during any deployment worldwide.
- ▶ **CERT San Diego graduation ceremonies have been officiated by San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders**, City Council President **Scott Peters**, Council members **Jim Madaffer, Kevin Faulconer, Toni Atkins, Brian Maienschein, Tony Young** and **Donna Frye**; Congress persons **Susan Davis and Duncan Hunter**, CA Insurance Commissioner **John Garamendi; Jill Olen**, the City of San Diego's Deputy Chief Operating Officer-Public Safety and Homeland Security, Fire Chiefs **Tracy Jarman** and **Jeff Bowman**, Assistant Fire Chiefs **William Middleton, Javier Mainer** and **John Jondall**, Deputy Fire Chiefs **Jeff Carle, John Thomson** and **Ken Malbrough**.
- ▶ **San Diego Fire-Rescue Department's Copter 1 crew offered the county's first CERT Helicopter field operations training** for CERT San Diego graduates. The goal is to prepare CERT volunteers to assist emergency helicopter crews, by setting up safe zones and offering ground support for landing and transport during disasters. These CERT helicopter trained volunteers are part of a CERT helicopter support team. SDFD will continue to offer these helicopter classes to its volunteers, **thanks to Air Operations Chief Brian Fennessy, Captain Bob Lyons and Firefighter/Paramedic Steve Vanderwalle**. The **CERT San Diego** helicopter team into 2006 disaster drills to allow CERT volunteers to practice their roles.

Join CERT San Diego!

October-November Academy 14 ♦ Attend Thurs. eve or Sat. morning

Six weeks with classroom and hands-on skills ♦ See schedule in this newsletter ♦

Classes are offered tuition- free as space allows to City of San Diego residents.

Community Emergency Response Team (619) 533-3075

www.CertSanDiego.org



(L to R): CERT Program Manager Barbara Ayers, Mayor Jerry Sanders, Fire Chief Tracy Jarman; Nick Rodi CERT San Diego volunteer extraordinaire named San Diego Fire-Rescue's Volunteer of the Year by SDFD Senior Staff; Christine Marcucci, CERT's Full time VISTA volunteer coordinator at a recent graduation hosted by Mayor Sanders.

CERT SAN DIEGO STAFF UPDATE:

► CERT San Diego Volunteer Staff:

Christine Marcucci, (Academy 4) Full time VISTA Volunteer Nov 05-Nov 05, Mira Mesa CERT Co-Leader
Gloria Applegate, (CERT Academy 3), office and logistics support, EMT.

Nick Rodi (CERT Academy 4) Office and logistics support, Navajo CERT Team Co-Leader

Ashley Little, Full time VISTA Volunteer Aug 06-Aug 07

And thanks to **loyal CERT volunteers** that serve, year 'round at CERT San Diego events and activities!

► **CERT San Diego's Barbara Ayers**, is the county's only fulltime CERT Program Manager and serves as Co-Chair of the CERT Council of San Diego County (SDCCC), with Chuck Strickland of La Mesa Fire. SDCCC is a working group of CERT program managers countywide, supported by the County Office of Emergency Services (staff: Stasia Place) and the San Diego County Citizens Corps Council.

► **CERT San Diego's** Principle Instructor SDFD Engineer **Stan Sgambelluri**, like many of his colleagues has been an instructor for the CERT program since it inception in January 2004. In 2006, we trained a new stable of paramedic and lifeguard CERT instructors, to further enhance the instructor team.



(L to r): CERT San Diego Instructors are firefighters, lifeguards and paramedics with many years of expertise to share; CERT San Diego Principle Instructor Stan Sgambelluri.

CERT INSTRUCTOR TEAM

Special thanks to the fabulous Fire-Rescue instructor team led by Managing Instructor **Stan Sgambelluri**: **Catheryn Alexander**, **Joe Amador**, **Michel Bowidowicz**, **Chris Brown**, **Greg Buchanan**, **Ed Cardenas**, **Dennis Clay**, **Steve Cowman**, **Marcelo DeCasas**, **Jared Deneen**, **Aja Dickey**, **Micah Doan**, **Dan Eddy**, **Rob Eichelberger**, **Gerald Everette**, **Ronnie Hicks**, **Brian Hojnacki**, **Leilani Liley**, **Mike Liversedge**, **Mitch Mender**, **Clinton Pusey**, **Kristina Quinones**, **Dan Saner**, **Eric Thomas**, **Bob Vigil**, **JC Wormington** and **Jamie Zuker**.



CERT San Diego incorporated San Diego Fire-Rescue's COPTER 1 into its disaster drills, thanks to the supportive crew for San Diego Fire-Rescue Department's Copter 1. (Pictured): June County CERT drill.



FUNDING UPDATE:

Business CERT (BERT) fees paid by companies such as **QUALCOMM** to train its employees or donations to underwrite CERT academies such as **SDG&E** and the **BID Council** paid or equipment donations help us grow the CERT San Diego disaster outreach and training program.

Special thanks to our sponsors at Fireman's Fund Insurance Company. We close out the two-year start up grant in fall 2006. Their generous donation of \$250,000 enabled the City of San Diego to jump start the CERT program, offering a vital public service to San Diegans in the wake of the Cedar Fire disasters. There would be no CERT San Diego program without Fireman's Fund. We are forever in their debt.

Anheuser Busch Sales of San Diego made two donations to support CERT San Diego in the amount of \$3,500. Special thanks to **Denise Cooper**, General Manager of Anheuser Busch, Navajo CERT's **Larry Goemann**, A-B Facilities Manager and **Vince Gonzalez**, Scripps Ranch CERT, for their support.

We continue to welcome business and donor support to enhance our City's CERT program.

CERT SAN DIEGO 2006 ACADEMIES

Academy 8:	March 2006 - 101 citizen graduates
Academy 9	(Qualcomm CERT #1): March 2006 – 41 employee graduates
Academy 10 and 11	Fast-tracked academies: 82 citizen graduates
Academy 12	Qualcomm CERT #2: 35 employee graduates
Academy 13	Private BID (Business Improvement District) Council class – September 2006 Sponsored by SDG&E for small businesses.
Academy 14	Community class – October/November 2006



Photos (L to R): CERT San Diego Ham Radio Team Leader Michael Brown; CERT instructors-- Battalion Chief Ronald Hicks and firefighters Joe Amador and Dan Eddy; CERT members use fire extinguishers as part of their training

CERT San Diego Ham Radio Team

After extensive recruitment, we have formed a CERT ham team of 29, led by Michael Brown. We incorporated ham operations into spring drills and are currently building communications protocols. We also held ham technician classes to encourage CERT volunteer participation.



(L to R, top to bottom): Volunteer victims such as Boy Scout troops, made up with moulage to simulate injuries add realism (and fun); CERT Lifeguard instructor Rob Eichelberger teaches first aid; CERT IC (Incident Commander) Jill Schenk performs a turnover to Fire-Rescue upon arrival; Team building skills are fun in CERT; Volunteers practice "cribbing" (leverage lifting) to free trapped victims; Fireman's Fund Insurance Company is a great public safety, SDFD and CERT supporter.



CERT San Diego graduates meet the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department's Copter 1 team

HELP CERT HELP SAN DIEGO:

*How you can help CERT prepare
San Diego for disasters:*

- Get CERT certified- join an academy! Then you will be ready to help others when it's needed most!
- Corporate Donations or employee charitable giving supports new programs
- Private donations help us build new programs
- Sponsor an Academy - BERT for businesses or CERT for the community
- Sponsor disaster kits or safety equipment for CERT volunteers and teams
- Host a forum or event at work or in the community
- Organize or join a CERT team at work or home
- Or?? Contact us! (619) 533-3075 cert@sandiego.gov

We welcome donations! The City of San Diego allocated \$140,730 to CERT San Diego in the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department budget for FY 07 (beginning July 1, 2006) to ensure the start-up program continues after its first two years. Grants, business CERT class fees and donations allow us to grow and offer more community service. CERT San Diego is funded by the City to hold three community CERT academies per year. We have far more people interested in attending these classes than we can accommodate. CERT disaster volunteers need to provide a \$55 disaster safety kit. This may be cost-prohibitive for some people. CERT San Diego and its teams need to build community equipment caches with supplies.

The City of San Diego and programs such as CERT San Diego are legally qualified charitable beneficiaries for grants and donations. The US Internal Revenue Code specifically identifies municipal governments as qualified charitable beneficiaries. The newly established San Diego Fire-Rescue Foundation, a 501c3 non profit organization, may also receive grants and donations earmarked for CERT San Diego.

Please see US Internal Revenue Code Section 170(c) and its subsections (1), (2) and (3). The California Code of Regulations, Section 18944.2 provides conformity with the US Internal Revenue Code. The information in this section is not intended, nor should it be considered, as legal opinion. Donors are urged to consult with their professional advisors for all matters associated with their charitable donations.



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JOIN US ♦ 14th CERT San Diego academy: Oct. 12- Nov 18, 2006 ♦

Six week class held near San Diego airport ♦ Thurs. night 6-10pm or Sat. mornings 8:30-12:30
Community Emergency Response Team (619) 533-3075 Email: cert@sandiego.gov

CERT SAN DIEGO (COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM)

14th Academy: 6 weeks, 4 hrs/week Starts October 12, 2006

DAY/DATE	MODULE	SUBJECT
Thursday 10/12 6-10 pm or Saturday 10/14 8:30 am -12:30	Module I	Disaster Preparedness, Intro to CERT program
Thursday 10/19 6-10pm or Saturday 10/21 8:30am-12:30	Module II and VIII	Fire Safety, Terrorism, Bio Hazards
Thursday 10/26 6-10pm or Saturday 10/28 8:30am-12:30	Module III and IV	Disaster Medical Operations
Thursday 11/2 6-10pm or Saturday 11/4 8:30am-12:30	Module V	Search & Rescue
Thursday 11/9 6-10pm only due to holiday	Module VI and VII	ICS, CERT organization, psychology, hands on skills
Saturday 11/18 8:30am-12:30 (Final is only offered on Saturday)	Module VIX, Final	Exam, disaster drill and graduation ceremony