



# Irvine Police Department Orange County Fire Authority CERT Program



## Community Emergency Response Team

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Community Emergency Response Team, or CERT, Program is designed to prepare you to help yourself, your family, and your neighbors in the event of a catastrophic disaster. Because emergency services personnel will not be able to help everyone immediately, you can make a difference by using the CERT training to save lives and protect property.

CERT Training covers basic skills important in a disaster, when emergency services are unavailable. You will want to help. With training, practice and you will be able to do the greatest good for the greatest number of people after a disaster, while also protecting yourself from becoming a victim.

**WHAT IS, COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM?** CERT is a group of responsible, trained individuals who have come together to form a skilled group of Disaster Service Workers. The CERT Program can be used in neighborhoods, businesses, and schools. The CERT members realize that in the event of a major disaster they will have to rely on their neighbors and themselves to handle emergencies until professional help arrives.

The CERT organization uses the same basic working structure that the Irvine Police Department, Orange County Fire Authority, and the City Emergency Operations Center use, where positions are assigned and correlate with functions. This structure is called the Incident Command System. The common goals of this management system can be accomplished without duplication of effort.

### **WHAT IS THE PURPOSE?**

Irvine recognizes the responsibility to provide emergency services to protect the lives and property of our residents. It also recognizes that City resources will be severely impacted making it difficult to address the needs of 202,000 residents. Due to the high demands that will be placed on our limited resources, everyone should be self-sufficient for a minimum of 3 - 5 days. The CERT Program utilizes the willingness and expertise of our residents to care for themselves and their neighbors.



## WHAT TYPE OF TRAINING WILL BE OFFERED?

The CERT Training Program will cover skills and information necessary during a disaster including:

- Disaster Operations
- Disaster Medical Operations
- Fire Suppression
- Light Search & Rescue
- Disaster Psychology and Team Organization

CERT training is focused on interactive discussions and hands-on activities. Upon completion of your training, we ask that you will share this valuable information with your neighbors and others. CERT participants must be 18 years or older. Thank you for your interest in the CERT Program.

## WHO DO WE CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION?

Contact the City of Irvine Emergency Management Section and obtain an updated training schedule at the Police Department by calling Dawna Finley, CERT Program Manager at (949) 724-7148.

Please put me on your waiting list and contact me for the next CERT Program.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

REASON FOR PARTICIPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

Email your interest to: [dfinley@ci.irvine.ca.us](mailto:dfinley@ci.irvine.ca.us)