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TRAFFIC AND CROWD MANAGEMENT

"A CERT member may be called upon to control or manage an incident scene when no other public safety agency is available." That statement from FEMA can be taken out of context and needs some explanation.

The term "control", when used in a non-emergency situation, can be interpreted as having authority to direct people's behavior. As a private citizen, generally you do not have any legal authority to enforce traffic laws, or local regulations regarding peaceful assembly. CERTs do not provide security!

CERT members do not assume nor replace the role of the police in enforcement of traffic laws, rules, or regulations.

However, the term "manage" does play a part in effectively influencing behavior in certain situations, "when no other public safety agency is available."

CERT basic training provides certain skills that can be applied in many situations to treat life threatening conditions until first responders arrive. Thankfully, we don't usually encounter emergency situations in our daily lives. As a CERT, we should be prepared to render first aid and assist others if we are the first person on the scene. You may find it necessary to take charge, issue directions (e.g., call 9-1-1), and manage scene safety until first responders arrive.

Managing people is an important skill to have whether it is an emergency or a planned event. People will gladly respect your barriers and follow directions if you are organized and prepared to address situations. The critical responsibility is to protect the safety of every participant and the spectators.

The Fairfax County CERT Program offers many training classes that enhance basic skills and expand your knowledge of special techniques and capabilities. One of the CERT Continuing Education (CCE) class is "Traffic and Crowd Management (TCM)". The 3-hour TCM course provides a basic understanding

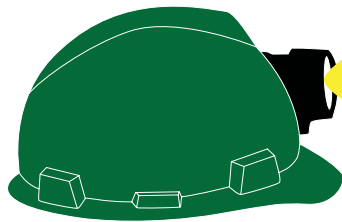


James S.,
 CERT Community
 Volunteer Training Lead



Sponsored by Fairfax
 County Fire & Rescue





of the why and how of managing vehicle and pedestrian traffic, ensuring the safety of the general public and emergency personnel. In managing a situation, you are able to have a positive effect on the behavior of someone, provide direction, and most importantly, represent the event host.

Fairfax County CERT TCM training was developed in 2012 when a community organization requested CERTs to provide "Course Marshals" for a large 5K foot race. The role of Course Marshal was interpreted as trained observers at key race course locations that were skilled in assessing and providing situation awareness and responding to any observed situations that might occur along the course. Being able to properly stop pedestrian and vehicle traffic while the runners are on the course does not come naturally!



The CERT TCM training has now been expanded and applied to several other planned community events. Our trained CERTs have supported several parades, Fire Academy Recruit graduations, and the World Police and Fire Games.

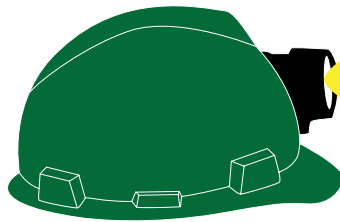
Look for the next TCM training opportunity this spring which will be offered at several locations across the county.

Traffic and Crowd Management opportunities are now one of the Fairfax County CERT program's biggest community event support requests. To learn more about how the CERT teams can provide services in your community, contact TRAINING@FairfaxCountyCERT.org



Do you remember what
"CALMeR"
stands for?

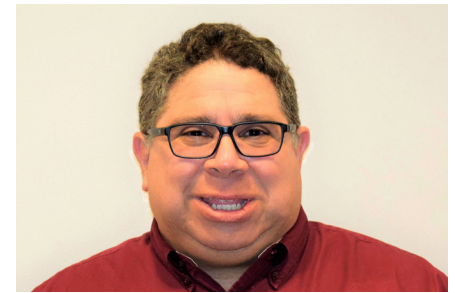
ANSWER ON PAGE 4



UNDER THE GREEN HELMET

JEFFREY KATZ

VOLUNTEER
LIAISON



Green Helmet: Thank you for taking time from your enormously busy schedule to speak with us. Mr. Katz, can you give us some background information of your relationship with the program and how you became involved with the CERT program?

Mr. Katz: I was born in Brooklyn, NY, and received a BS in Geology from Boston University and a Masters of Public Administration from John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Prior to moving to Virginia, I worked for 24 years with the New York City Dept. of Design and Construction as an Environmental Geologist, while also serving as a volunteer firefighter / EMT in Merrick, NY. In 2007, I moved to Fairfax County to begin my new career as the Volunteer Liaison with the Fairfax County Government. The Volunteer Liaison office coordinates all activities of 12 Volunteer Departments to ensure that over 380 operational volunteers, 290 administrative volunteers, 130 applicants and trainees, and 100 pieces of apparatus are fully and effectively integrated into and support the mission of the Fire and Rescue Department. In addition, I direct and oversee the coordination of volunteer recruiting, including HR matters, IT issues, coordination with Occupational Health Center (OHC), Risk management, and tracking of the volunteer budget under which the CERT program is placed. Since its inception, the Fairfax County CERT program has trained over 3000 residents of the county, with more being added.

We hope you enjoy getting to learn more about Jeffrey Katz our Volunteer Liaison. Be sure you check out Under the Green Helmet next month to learn about another member of your fantastic leadership team!

Green Helmet: What is the largest ROI personally for you as a member of the CERT program?

Mr. Katz: The volunteers and citizens of the county participating in the program. Nearly 300 people are being trained annually. This is a validation of the importance and concern that our Fairfax County citizens have for their community and their willingness to be involved.

Green Helmet: What is the most important benefit of the program for others to know about?

Mr. Katz: Being prepared. The program provides an awareness not only of safety, but exposure to learning ways to be diligent and prepared in multiple areas, especially as we tend to new encounters.

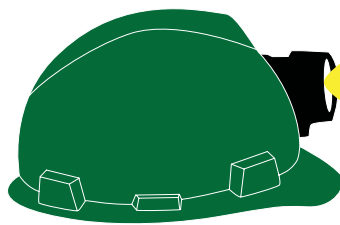
Green Helmet: What goals would you like the CERT program to consider that perhaps have not been considered before?

Mr. Katz: Activation and expansion of the community teams. We are seeing growth in this area, especially with new graduates who are generating a new energy and willingness to give of themselves. Keeping volunteers engaged is key to all volunteer programs, especially one as important as the CERT program.

Green Helmet: When you are not working, what are some other areas of interest to you?

Mr. Katz: I enjoy spending time with my family, including my two sons, one of which is off to Oklahoma University this year. I also enjoy target shooting, and I have a rather large collection of HO Scale trains.

Mr Katz can be reached at: Jeffrey.Katz@fairfaxcounty.gov



ASK A PRO

OUR PRO FOR THIS MONTH IS
JEFFREY KATZ, VOLUNTEER LIASON

Question: Why do I need to get a Back Ground Check or Criminal Background Investigation (CBI)?

Answer: The Bottom line is that you don't.

50% of the of residents who take the CERT class, finish the class, and are never seen again. This is perfectly fine. They are now better trained than the average resident, and are better prepared for whatever may occur. The remaining 50% take additional classes that the CERT program has to offer. 50% of those (25% of the original group) want to participate in the CERT participation levels.

That is where the CBI comes into play. If you want to participate in the CERT levels, you will need a CBI from Fairfax County, and based on County policy, we can't use a CBI from another agency or volunteer organization.

Have a question?

Do you have question about a recent training event or not sure about something you hear in your first CERT class? Then send it our way and we will do our best to get an answer for you! Questions can be sent to Newsletter@fairfaxcountycert.org and be sure to put "Ask A Pro " in the subject line.

C o m m a n d

A c c o u n t a b i l i t y

L o g i s t i c s

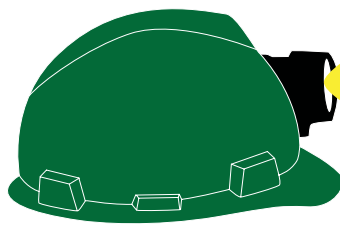
M e d i c a l

e

R e s c u e

To schedule the free background check, fill out the Fairfax Co. Government Appointee Background Form and call the number at the bottom to make an appointment. Please do not send me the form, bring it with you to the Government Center for your fingerprinting. Also, do not call them for results. Once the results are in, I will let you know by email.

The Security office at the Government center now has Saturday hours from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm.



A LETTER TO ALL CERTS

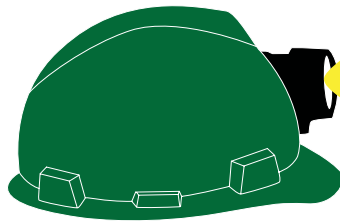
JEFFREY KATZ,
VOLUNTEER LIASON

Welcome to a new year, with many changes in store for the Community Emergency Response Team Program here in Fairfax County. We will have our normal basic CERT classes at the Fire and Rescue Academy, and at outside venues throughout the county. We will also hold our standard extracurricular classes such as: ICS, Advanced Lifting and Cribbing, CPR/AED, First Aid, Stop the Bleed, First Aid for Hostile Mass Casualty Incidents, CERT Communications, etc.

Many of our CERT students are very content with taking the initial class, maybe another class or two and that is it, and there is nothing wrong with that. But for those who want to do more, it is time to start looking at moving beyond disaster response.

Due to the success of our program, and the success of the team initiatives (thank you Jonathan K. and Jim M.), it is the right time to start moving the CERT program into the future. Initially, the Fairfax CERT program was developed to assist people in taking care of themselves in the aftermath of a major disaster when first responders are overwhelmed or unable to respond immediately. As the CERT concept has taken hold across the county, CERTs have become much more than originally envisioned. CERTs have proven themselves to be an active and vital part of their communities' preparedness and response capability. In this upcoming grant period, we will look into developing some of the proposed activities that CERTs could now be called upon to include but not limited to:

- Assisting in post disaster recovery.
- Have teams register and work with the CRG (Community Resiliency Groups).
- Staffing local emergency operations centers (EOCs) during disasters.
- Shelter operations staffing during emergencies.
- Staffing Community Points of Distribution (C-PODs) for commodity distribution during disasters and/or assisting during vaccination clinics.
- Assist with large scale searches for missing persons.
- Provide community training to citizens in cardiopulmonary resuscitation /First Aid.
- Assisting in rehabilitation efforts at emergency scenes.
- Supplement staffing at special events, such as parades.
- Participate in training and exercises.
- Provide emergency radio communications with CERT individuals and teams.
- Provide emergency radio communications (voice and data) links when landline and cellular phone systems become congested or compromised; for passing of CERT community assessment (damage) reports to the EOC.
- Provide emergency radio operators at fire and police stations when applicable, to assist with non-emergency communications from the public.
- Duties as assigned.



What does all this mean? It means the implementation of the deployable CERT volunteers! This is what many of you have been requesting, and patiently waiting to have happen. No one will be required to join, this will be totally voluntary enrollment.

It will take a lot of planning and work on our parts, but with help from the volunteers, we can get it done.

The process has begun by scheduling meetings with the upper levels of Emergency Managers to start the conversations.

There are several projects that need to be completed in order to continue to the next steps. We are asking for your help in producing and updating these items

as well as others: the FFX CERT Standard Operating Procedures, the FFX CERT Field Guide, the redesign of the CERT website, and more!

We are challenging you, the CERT volunteers to help with the projects mentioned above. Come to the next monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 20th, and volunteer to help on some of the required tasks and committees.

For this program to expand, now is your time to bring your talents and strengths forward, learn news, and help us grow to the next levels.

CERT SKILLS IN ACTION

LARRY N.,
CERT 122

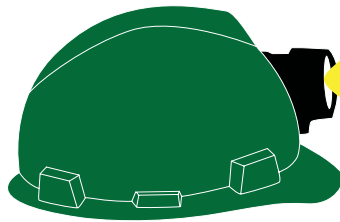
With the cooler October temperatures, I probably should have worn a heavier jacket or a least a sweatshirt, and I took the long way home, too. Motorcycle riding is like that, always looking for an excuse to ride. Fortunately, or not, that was the case on the evening of October 1st. My name is Larry N. and I'm a member of the Fairfax County Community Emergency Response Team.

Recently I participated in the CERT training as part of Class 122 and completed the final activity on the Lorton campus. I do carry my CERT gear in my car, but not on the motorcycle, given the limited space.

So, on the evening in question I was riding east on Franconia Boulevard, just after dusk. As I approached the curve that leads into Rose Hill Shopping Center, I noticed a car pulling out into traffic from my left...left turns, any left turns, are a high risk for motorcycle riders, so I was aware of

the movement but it was far enough ahead of me that I didn't need to react...The driver continued to edge into traffic and blocked both west-bound lanes and was almost immediately struck "T bone" fashion by an oncoming car. Our training must have prepared us well. Without hesitation, I rolled into the center turn lane, set the emergency blinkers and dismounted.





continued from page 6

I approached the vehicles although there were several bystanders milling around, none of whom appeared to be assisting or engaging the drivers. In the martial arts world, we have an expression we borrowed from the military – "you'll do what you do in practice" which was very accurate. My thoughts were to first get a sense of the environment; next, check the people in the car, then call 911."

First things first, I evaluated the scene as I approached. Nothing obvious to me – no fire or blood or fluid spills, and traffic had stopped. Both drivers seemed dazed but neither was being very vocal. The first driver stepped out of his vehicle so I approached him first; I introduced myself, "My name is Larry and I'm a Fairfax County Emergency Team responder." He responded competently to a few basic questions, but was insistent on reaching in the car to get his cell phone, although the car was starting to fill with smoke. We agreed he could use my phone to call his wife. I suggested he sit down, but he didn't.

The second driver seemed more dazed and didn't get out of his car. Again, no visual cues like fluid or blood and he also responded well to basic questions. He did not get out of his vehicle, so I did not make the suggestion.

I dialed 911 right away. I was thinking "both are GREEN according to our criteria."

When the 911 operator answered, I introduced myself by name and said I was a Fairfax County CERT and that I had witnessed a traffic accident. I gave the location, and promptly stated "I have two victims, both GREEN." Her immediate response was, "What, two green cars?" That threw me off, but I've come to learn the color codes we use are common with Fire Departments and EMTs, less so with others. We sorted out the discussion, and I waited for the responders.

Both FCFD and FCPD responded quickly. As the firetruck pulled up, I introduced myself and said "I'm Larry, I'm a Fairfax County CERT, I was here when the accident occurred. There are two victims, both GREEN." That got a quick smile and a "Thank you." They were very efficient about approaching the vehicles and the drivers.

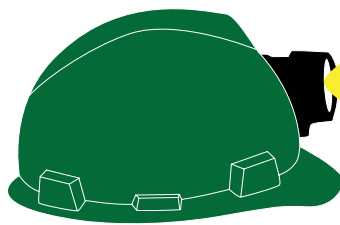
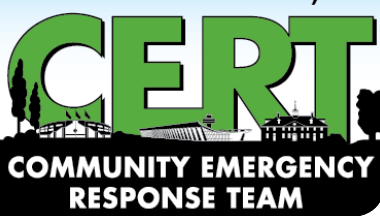
FCPD arrived next, and I approached the officer with my hands out of my pockets and explained that I had dialed 911 and reported the incident as well as the conditions of the victims and asked how I could help. She took my contact information and told me I could leave.

After Action Review (self-imposed):

1. There's no substitute for experience
2. I could have made better use of the bystanders by asking someone to assist each victim
3. I did not have my CERT backpack with me, but, as luck would have it, I didn't need it; the circumstance did cause me to consider what I had and what I could use while talking to the two drivers
4. I felt a little funny that I had no way to identify myself to the first responders

Net/Net – had anyone needed assistance, I'd have had my training and resolve tested to a much higher level.

Many thanks to our instructors and fellow CERTS for helping prepare me to assist.



Calendar Legend
Classes Outreach
Operations Meetings

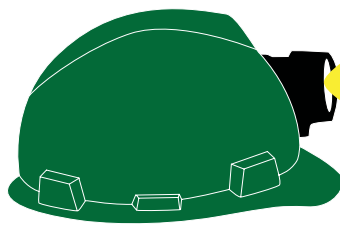
March 2018

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
			1	2	3	4
CERT 133 - Burke, 7:00 - 10:00pm CERT Tools for Leadership Success Module, 7:00 - 10:00pm	5	6	7	8	9	10
CERT 133 - Burke, 7:00 - 10:00pm Hazmat: General Intro. to Hazardous Materials, 7:00 - 10:00pm	12	13	14	15	16	17
	HAM1D Amateur Radio Class - Fairfax F&RD and CERT, 7:00pm					18
						Makers Faire - George Mason University, 11:00am - 5:00pm
CERT 133 - Burke, 7:00 - 10:00pm	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Monthly Program Meeting, 7:00pm HAM1D Amateur Radio Class - Fairfax F&RD and CERT, 7:00pm	MGT 439 (CERT) - Pediatric Disaster Response & Emerg. Preparedness, 8:00am - 7:00pm	CERT 134 - Ft. Belvoir, 6:30 - 10:00pm MGT 439 (CERT) - Pediatric Disaster Response & Emerg. Preparedness, 8:00am - 7:00pm	ICS-300 (CERT) - Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents, 5:00 - 10:00pm	ICS-300 (CERT) - Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm	ICS-300 (CERT) - Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
CERT 133 - Burke, 7:00 - 10:00pm National Safety Council First Aid, 7:00 - 10pm	26	27	28	29	30	31
	HAM1D Amateur Radio Class - Fairfax F&RD and CERT, 7:00pm	Nat. Safety Council CPR and AED For CERT, 7:00 - 10pm	CERT 134 - Ft. Belvoir, 6:30 - 10:00pm		Stop the Bleed Training for CERT, 9:00am - 12:00pm	

April 2018

Save the Date
May 5th, 2018
IAD Triennial Disaster Drill

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
CERT 136 - Fire & Rescue Academy, 7:00 - 11:00pm	HAM1D Amateur Radio Class - Fairfax F&RD and CERT, 7:00pm	CERT 136 - Fire & Rescue Academy, 7:00 - 11:00pm	CERT 134 - Ft. Belvoir, 6:30 - 10:00pm		Culmore Multicultural Day - Woodrow Wilson Library, 10:00am - 2:00pm	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
CERT 136 - Fire & Rescue Academy, 7:00 - 11:00pm	What's in your Pack?, 7:00 - 10:00pm HAM1D Amateur Radio Class - Fairfax F&RD and CERT, 7:00pm	CERT 136 - Fire & Rescue Academy, 7:00 - 11:00pm	CERT 134 - Ft. Belvoir, 6:30 - 10:00pm			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
CERT 133 - Burke, 7:00 - 10:00pm CERT 136 - Fire & Rescue Academy, 7:00 - 11:00pm	CERT Orientation, 6:00pm Monthly Program Meeting, 7:00pm Overhead High Voltage Safety Demo, 10:00 - 11:30am & 1:00 - 2:30pm HAM1D Amateur Radio Class - Fairfax F&RD and CERT, 7:00pm	CERT 136 - Fire & Rescue Academy, 7:00 - 11:00pm	CERT 134 - Ft. Belvoir, 6:30 - 10:00pm			Fairfax County USAR Full Scale Exercise - Lorton Training Facility
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Fairfax County USAR Full Scale Exercise - Lorton Training Facility CERT 136 - Fire & Rescue Academy, 7:00 - 11:00pm CERT 137 - Fire & Rescue Academy, 7:00 - 11:00pm	Fairfax County USAR Full Scale Exercise - Lorton Training Facility HAM1D Amateur Radio Class - Fairfax F&RD and CERT, 7:00pm First Aid for Hostile Mass Casualty Incident & Improved Splinting Skills, 7:00 - 10:00pm	CERT 136 - Fire & Rescue Academy, 7:00 - 11:00pm Fairfax County USAR Full Scale Exercise - Lorton Training Facility	CERT 134 - Ft. Belvoir, 6:30 - 10:00pm Fairfax County USAR Full Scale Exercise - Lorton Training Facility	Fairfax County USAR Full Scale Exercise - Lorton Training Facility	CERT 133 - Burke, Final Exercise	HAM1D Amateur Radio Class - Fairfax F&RD and CERT, 7:00pm
30						



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FROM THE NEWSLETTER TEAM

While we all wish we had journalism degrees to use in the production of this newsletter, we don't. We are volunteers just like you. We appreciate your feedback and input.

If you have a question you want answered? Have a story idea? Read a good CERT-related book you want to recommend? Want to contribute an item? Send them to us at newsletter@fairfaxcountycert.org. Neighborhood teams - we'd love to hear what you are doing. Let us know!