

APPENDIX H: NYC CERT CODE OF CONDUCT

NYC CERT CODE OF CONDUCT

All Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) in New York City are expected to abide by a Code of Conduct. The outlined Code of Conduct ultimately assures your safety and supports effective coordination with New York City's local emergency response system.

Please read this document carefully. By signing below, you acknowledge that you have accepted and are willing to uphold and comply with this Code of Conduct as a NYC CERT member. Please note that failing to adhere to any of the acceptable conduct below may result in your termination as a participant in the NYC CERT program.

As a NYC CERT member I will:

- Exercise safety as my first priority.
- Respect others.
- Follow all rules and regulations as indicated in the "NYC CERT Standard Operating Procedures".
- Accommodate community members with special needs.
- Inform the New York City Office of Emergency Management of all attempted CERT response activities.
- Understand that I must relinquish control of the disaster/emergency site once first responders arrive on the scene.
- Communicate actions and information taken, by myself and team members, during emergencies, to local emergency responders once they arrive on the scene.
- Follow directions of first responders (FDNY, NYPD, OEM) once on scene.
- Obey all City, State and Federal laws and regulations.

As a NYC CERT member, I will not:

- Self-deploy or respond to planned events or incidents occurring outside or inside of my community, without the express permission from the Office of Emergency Management, or unless explicitly instructed to do so by FDNY/EMS or NYPD.
- Use CERT gear or equipment (including CERT IDs of any kind) for any purpose other than during response to an emergency or disaster in my community, or to identify myself during preparedness activities in my community.
- Use the NYC Office of Emergency Management or any other city agency title or logo on any material(s) that were not given to me by NYC OEM or the respective city agency.
- Attempt to perform any skills or response beyond the level of my CERT training. As such, I agree that I will not:
 - Attempt to suppress large fires.
 - Attempt to enter structures that appear to me to be heavily damaged and dangerous (e.g., leaning or moved from foundation).
 - Attempt to perform hazardous materials cleanup or respond to incidents involving radiological, chemical, or biological agents.
 - Attempt to perform medical, fire or search and rescue operations beyond my level of CERT training.

Violation of any of these proscribed activities will result in termination as a participant in the NYC CERT program.

Print Name

Date

Signature

District/Community Board Number