

## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mark A. Hartwig Fire Chief / Fire Warden

DATE: November 8, 2016 CONTACT: Battalion Chief Scott Tuttle (909) 520-5298

## **SBCoFD Seeks Volunteers for Emergency Response Training**

Are you ready? In the event of an emergency are you prepared to not only take care of yourself and significant others but help your neighbors and community? If not, or even if you think you are but would like to hone your skills, consider becoming a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) member.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) program that helps educate citizens about hazards they may face and trains them in lifesaving skills so that they are better prepared to respond to emergency situations in their communities.

San Bernardino County Fire and San Bernardino County Office of Emergency Services are looking for people interested in joining our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) in the Twentynine Palms area. CERT is a group of volunteer community members trained to assist the Fire Department in responding to the needs of the community in the event of a major disaster.

The CERT program is designed to get residents working together with the Fire Department to help themselves, their neighbors, and the community in the event of a disaster such as a major earthquake, flood, or fire. All participants become trained in basic disaster preparedness, light search and rescue, disaster medicine, and firefighting. This training is provided at no cost to area residents and could save your life or the life of your loved ones.

For additional information, please come to our informational meeting at the Twentynine Palms Fire Station located at 6560 Adobe Rd, Twentynine Palms from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 17th. Questions from interested volunteers can be directed to Division 5 Headquarters at (760) 228-6380.

Photos of a CERT volunteers at a recent annual training exercise can be found at sbcofd.smugmug.com

###

157 West Fifth St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, San Bernardino, Ca. 92415-0451