

MEMORANDUM



TO: ERICK W. ZINSER
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY/CHIEF OF POLICE

FROM: SCOTT A. BERKSETH
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT)

DATE: NOVEMBER 4, 2024

On Saturday, November 2, 2024, the City of Novi Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) completed their training and graduated from the program. This class consisted of seven volunteers who received 27 hours of hands-on classroom instruction. This brings the total number of active CERT members to 67 community volunteers who are trained, ready and able to assist the Public Safety Department in the event of a disaster.

CERT training culminated this past weekend with an hour and a half mock-disaster exercise at Novi Fire Station # 4. Eleven current CERT members volunteered to assist with the mock exercise scenario evaluation and to serve as mock victims in the exercise which included the following simulated scenarios:

- Conducting a medical assessment of injured victims and providing disaster medical response and operations
- Reporting to a designated staging area
- Reporting information back to a command post
- Conducting search & rescue with a trapped victim
- Conducting search & rescue and damage assessment with electrical wires and an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) next to mock victims.

The Emergency Management Coordinator and CERT Instructors provided constant visual assessments of the volunteers during the exercises and provided constructive feedback to the participants at the conclusion of each scenario.

Following the mock-disaster exercises, CERT volunteers were honored with a Graduation Ceremony at Fire Station 4 and received completion certificates from the Public Safety Administration team. As a result, the City of Novi now has the following community members fully trained as CERT volunteers: **Antoinette Florence, Viola Allen-Freeman, Andrew Harding, Thomas Johnson, Elizabeth Orlowski, Firoz Shaik, & Tim Tutak**

