



BE PREPARED: **A CERTain Way to Be Prepared**

THE EYES OF THE WORLD WILL BE ON LOS ANGELES Sunday as stars gather for the Oscars a few miles away in Hollywood. But a program created in L.A. nearly 40 years ago deserves an award for its starring role in preparing residents nationwide to be disaster first responders as members of [Community Emergency Response Teams](#), or CERT.

There are several ways to connect to the CERT community in Los Angeles:

- Read about the program on the [LA CERT website](#)
- Download any of the [extensive training materials](#) available to read on your own
- Bookmark the CERT [calendar of events](#) page to view in-person and zoom trainings
- Take the [seven-week in-person courses](#) that are taught at local fire stations
- Watch any of the nearly 100 videos on the [CERT-LA YouTube channel](#)

Longtime Franklin Hills resident Roland Giedraitis completed the in-person CERT training course last month for the second time. He was one of the early participants at CERT training, and various refresher courses and hands-on drills, scheduled shortly after the FHRA was founded and very well attended.

“I took the CERT course more than 20 years ago since I wanted to be better prepared for an earthquake or some other disaster,” Giedraitis explained. “I took the course again simply because it’s easy to forget the details. This is an excellent review which instills in me greater confidence to cope with any upcoming disasters,” he added.

At that time, more than 50 Franklin Hills residents participated in two CERT trainings and the subject was covered extensively in our [early Overviews](#).

Let’s try to revive that enthusiasm and commitment to Being Prepared. Some baby steps?

- Browse the [updated Emergency Preparedness page](#) on our FHRA website (a drop-down tab under “Community”).
- Complete our short, [5-question survey about preparedness here](#).