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[www.murphytx.org](http://www.murphytx.org)

# News Release

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## Seventh Murphy CERT class now accepting applications

MURPHY (August 7, 2018) The next opportunity for residents interested in becoming part of the critically-important Community Emergency Response Team is coming soon, and applications are now being accepted.

“Emergencies, natural and man-made, are part of our community’s life,” says Murphy Fire Marshal Perry Elliott. “CERT members help people get through these incidents in a positive way. We’re looking for people who want to respond to these emergencies in a thoughtful, calm and appropriate way. The class prepares ordinary folks to do extraordinary things during these incidents.”

Murphy Fire Rescue is now recruiting individuals to be part of the City’s seventh CERT class. Sponsored and conducted by disaster preparedness professionals with the Murphy Fire Department, the next CERT class begins on Thursday, Sept. 13 and concludes on Nov. 17.

A realistic disaster drill will occur on the final day of class, allowing participants to put their newly-developed skills into practice.

Applications for enrollment will be accepted until Sept. 5, and can be submitted online at <http://www.murphytx.org/289/CERT-APPLICATION> or through the Murphy Fire Department page of [www.murphytx.org](http://www.murphytx.org). Classes are held from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Murphy Fire Station training room, 206 North Murphy Road.

“Emergency Preparedness professionals calculate that residents will likely be required to maintain self-sufficiency for up to 72 hours after an emergency, with only the resources on hand. CERT-trained volunteers help bridge that potential three-day gap between the incident and when additional help arrives,” said Elliott.

The program includes training in disaster preparedness, identifying and dealing with hazards that may have an impact on affected areas. Participants learn basic disaster preparedness skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following events when first responders are not immediately available. CERT members are also utilized for non-emergency activities such as crowd and traffic control, freeing up first responders for true emergencies.

“There are no online or correspondence courses for this kind of training. It’s hands-on, intensive and highly-focused,” said Elliott. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age, residents of Murphy and pass a background check.

More information can be obtained from the Fire Department page under Departments at [www.murphytx.org](http://www.murphytx.org) or by calling Murphy Fire Rescue at (972) 468-4300 or by sending an e-mail to [cert@murphytx.org](mailto:cert@murphytx.org).

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 19,330, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income above the state average. With more than 70 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a country feel while exhibiting an aggressive economic development stance. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27<sup>th</sup> Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.