



RAMONA COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

ARTICLE I: NAME OF ORGANIZATION(S)

The name of the organization shall be **Ramona Community Emergency Response Team “Ramona CERT”** under the direction of the sponsoring agency, the **Ramona Municipal Water District** or its designee.

Ramona Fire Department/CAL-FIRE is the designee. The designee is a cooperative agreement between the **Ramona Municipal Water District** and **CAL-FIRE**. As such, the managers of the program will be the Ramona Fire/CAL-FIRE Battalion Chief and Ramona CERT Program manager.

BATTALION CHIEF

CERT PROGRAM MANAGER

General Staff OPS PLANS LOGISTICS FINANCE

DRIVERS ACTIVE MEMBERS

Ramona Emergency Action League “REAL,” is a non-profit association that closely supports Ramona CERT. Members of REAL maybe both Ramona CERT and REAL. REAL is not a registered Disaster Service Worker Volunteer Program (DSWVP) as of this date and is not authorized to participate in disaster services under the realm of Ramona CERT.

Ramona CERT, a registered DSWVP, retains all operational control and utilization of equipment.

ARTICLE II: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goals and objectives of Ramona CERT are to:

- Educate citizens in the Ramona area to be prepared to take care of themselves; family, friends and neighbors in the event of a disaster of any type until trained emergency responders can arrive.
- Participate as an emergency resource via the Office of Emergency Services and by activation of the RMWD, and volunteer to help during an emergency.

- Assist with the implementation the Ramona Community Protection and Evacuation Plan (CPEP) as documented through San Diego County OES (**attachment 1**)
- Participate in the Ramona Emergency Communications plan in cooperation with the Ramona Outdoor Amateur Radio Society (ROARS).(**attachment 2**)
- Maintain and supply Ramona CERT members with training and materials for disaster planning and preparedness to achieve their maximum potential to save lives and property when called upon.
- Provide assistance to the Ramona Municipal Water District, Ramona Fire Department, and CAL-FIRE agencies that request volunteer services, such as light search & rescue, minor fire control, triage and first aid treatment, damage assessment, documentation, amateur emergency communications, shelter management(pending), traffic control, and victim comfort in time of need.
- Conduct periodic “live” exercises.
- Publicize Ramona CERT activities to promote public awareness and seek support from the citizens of the Ramona area.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION A - Eligibility

A citizen that would like to become a Ramona CERT member is required to participate and pass a registered CERT Academy.

The RMWD or its designee as described in Article 1, reserves the right to set a limit on total membership.

Applicants will be subject to a background check by the RMWD at no cost to the individual prior to final approval. A successful background check is required.

Applicants should be encouraged to fill out an application at Ramona Fire Department’s Station 80. The location is 829 San Vicente Road, Ramona, 92065.

SECTION B - Requirements

Ramona CERT members are required to attend monthly trainings and periodic “Live” exercises. Members that cannot meet these requirements may be terminated from the team without valid excuses. Valid excuses would include but not limited to; Medical, Military Duty, Family Emergency or Care, and Work Related reasons. Specific medical reasons for self or family will not be requested by Ramona CERT for privacy regulations.

SECTION C - Resignation

Resignation, lapsing, or violation of the “Code of Conduct” (**attachment 3**) agreement may terminate membership in the Ramona CERT. Any member may resign from Ramona CERT upon written notice of the violation and the return of any Ramona CERT packs or other Ramona CERT property. Unreturned RMWD owned equipment may be legally pursued by the RMWD.

SECTION D – Disciplinary Action

The CERT Program manager may consider any member for expulsion for lapsing, violations of the “Code of Conduct” agreements, violations of the Good Samaritan act, or operating outside the scope of a Disaster Service worker. A written notice of the violation will be served. Any Ramona CERT packs or other Ramona CERT property owned by the RMWD will be returned. Unreturned RMWD owned equipment may result in legal action by the RMWD.

ARTICLE VIII: OPERATIONS

SECTION A – CERT Team “ALERT “

This is a condition sent by the Ramona CERT Program manager or designee of a condition that may prompt a CERT team response. Usually by “text message” or by phone, members should prepare themselves based upon the information given as to the perceived hazard. Members are encouraged to give their “availability”.

SECTION B – CERT Team “ACTIVATION”

This is the notification that an emergency exists and action is required. Usually by “text message” or by phone, members should prepare themselves based upon the information given as to the known emergency. The Ramona CERT Program manager or designee will activate the team and give incident information and objectives. Implementation of the Ramona CERT/ROARS Communication Plan, participation in the Sheriff’s “YANNA” plan, or assistance with the Ramona Community Protection and Evacuation Plan (CPEP) plan may be required. Additional instructions or changes can follow the activation by “text message”, phone, or website.

If the emergency event is Region, State or a National Emergency Ramona Cert will be guided by the San Diego County Emergency Operations Center OES or “EOC”. The CERT program director will notify San Diego County OES any Ramona CERT activation.

SECTION C – CERT Team “SELF ACTIVATION”

Overall, CERT teams are not allowed to self activate without the sponsoring agency’s approval. However, there may be a disaster so horrific that the sponsoring agency may be rendered “incapacitated”. Ramona CERT team members are trained to first evaluate their own situation, immediate family, neighbors, and community utilizing the skills they have attained at the academy. An organized response may take some time as the County Emergency Operations Center and Red Cross organize and activate. Utilize all sources of Intel you can via Radio, TV, and alternate resources to see where CERT team members are being requested.

ARTICLE IV: - POSITION DESCRIPTIONS

SECTION A - CERT Team Program Manager

A position supplied by CAL-FIRE for the oversight of the Ramona CERT program.

SECTION B- CERT Program Manager Assistant.

Selected by CAL- FIRE Program Manager to assist in whatever ways deemed necessary. This position is an active member.

SECTION C- CERT Team Drivers

Cert Team drivers are approved operators of RMWD owned vehicles, trailers, and towable's. These approved drivers are selected by the Program manager. Drivers possess and maintain a valid California Drivers License, insurance, and have passed the approved RMWD defensive driving class and background checks. Drivers are added to the RMWD's insurance. RMWD the maximum number of drivers to four at this time.

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