

APPENDIX A: RULES OF CONDUCT

As a volunteer with the Depoe Bay Fire District (DBFD) CERT program, CERT members are expected to comply with the following requirements:

1. CERT members will make **safety their first priority**.
2. When disaster occurs, CERT members' first responsibility is to their own safety and the safety of their family.
3. CERT members are not professional emergency responders. They function as an extension of the DBFD's response to **catastrophic disasters**, or when directed by emergency service officials.
4. CERT members will self-activate only in a **catastrophic disaster** when professional emergency responders are not available.
5. CERT members will only undertake activities within their capabilities, within the scope of their training, and will not take risks that are likely to cause injury to themselves or others.
6. CERT members agree to be courteous and respectful with the DBFD, law enforcement and other professional responders, with fellow CERT members and with the public.
7. CERT members will not use alcohol or incapacitating drugs (including medications) while participating in official CERT activities. If CERT members are impaired when responding they will notify the appropriate supervisor who will decide how or if they may participate.
8. Carrying firearms or other weapons solely intended to cause injury to others is strictly prohibited by any CERT member during official CERT activities.
9. CERT I.D. cards and appropriate safety gear **MUST** be worn during all activations.
10. CERT members will not make statements to the press unless directed by the Incident Commander or sponsoring agency.
11. CERT members will respect the privacy of other CERTs and the public and will hold in confidence all sensitive, private, and personal information. This is also important during radio use.
12. CERT members will not use their membership or their identification cards to gain favors, preferential treatment or to influence others for any purpose other than emergency preparedness.
13. CERT members will not use their participation in CERT to promote politics, religious matters or positions on any issue.
14. CERT members will follow their Chain of Command at all times.
15. CERT members will represent themselves in a manner consistent with their position within the Incident Command System.
16. CERT members will comply with all training requirements as outlined in the Operating Guidelines.
17. CERT I.D. cards, gear and equipment will **ONLY** be used during official CERT activities.
18. Gear issued to CERT members must be maintained in good working condition, and must be stored in a place that will prevent items from being used by unauthorized persons.
19. CERT members will return their ID card and all gear they have received from the Depoe Bay Fire District CERT program if they are removed from service or leave for other reasons as stated in the Operating Guidelines. CERT members agree to reimburse the Depoe Bay Fire District CERT program for the cost to replace any items not returned.

I, (print name) _____, have read, understand and agree to abide by the above Rules of Conduct. Failure on my part to comply with any of the rules could result in the termination of my volunteer service on the Community Emergency Response Team.

Member Signature

Date