

New CERT Specialized Units authorized by Clallam County Fire District 3

As part of the new initiatives being implemented by Chief Justin Grider, CERT is being asked to expand its role in operations. Three new specialized units have been authorized by the Chief.

These roles are in addition to your normal duties with your neighborhood teams. They are the following units: A Crew for staffing the CCFD 3's new safety house trailer; A Drone Reconnaissance Team; and a Rehab Unit to support Live Fires in CCFD 3's district.

CCFD 3 New Safety House Trailer:

CCFD 3 is acquiring a new safety house trailer to train kids and the public on Fire Safety. This trailer is a miniature house with an upstairs bedroom, a balcony with an escape ladder, fireplace, dining area, living room and kitchen. The trailer has a control room which can activate a variety of features, such as simulated fire, heat, smoke (safe vegetable oil basis) and lighting. The trailer requires a crew of 4 to operate. The trailer is going to receive a new modern exterior graphics package featuring Fire District 3 logos and for the first time CERT logos on it. We are looking for six to twelve people interested in training to serve with this squad for community events where this will be displayed. If you are interested, contact Cindy Zechenelly.

Drone Reconnaissance:

CCFD 3 is authorizing CERT to establish a drone squad for training purposes that will be based out of Sequim Valley Airport to provide recon for the CERT organization in times of disaster. These drones will be "out of line of sight" units requiring FAA training and certifications to fly. CERTs will be working with Sally Bay; Jim Emett; Donna Stoffel and Charles Meyer to obtain the necessary training and certifications. This will require considerable effort to achieve your FAA certification for flight. On the day of a disaster, once you have been certified you will be able to fly your drone, or the one provided for your Division Area or neighborhood team, to assess damage levels. These missions will come directly from your Division Chief who has pre-approval from the Sequim Operational Area Unified Command. Those interested should contact Cindy Zechenelly. If you know individuals that currently fly drones who might be interested, they will need to go through our academy to become a CERT member.

CCFD 3 Rehab Operations:

CCFD 3 is looking to form up to two squads of volunteers willing to assist on Rehab for live fire occurring in the district. This will be a rolling duty assignment of two weeks on a 24-hour basis to be available for calls. Individuals who choose this assignment will carry a Motorola Radio pager provided by CCFD 3 which will page them as to a fire. The individuals will then call EMT Rehab Leaders Blaine or Keith for the location of where to meet. The job will entail the setup of the Rehab vehicle, including tables, tarps, chairs, medical equipment, fans, heaters, food, hydration, Self-