

How to Join CERT

Please contact Officer Nick Goon at **617-730-2734** or **ngoan@brooklinema.gov** for information regarding upcoming trainings, the application process or to request additional information and/or an application or visit our website at: www.brooklinepolice.com



Brookline CERT

Preparing to Respond

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program, which is part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Citizen Corp Program, helps train people to be better prepared to respond to emergency situations in their communities. When emergencies occur, CERT members can give critical support to first responders, provide immediate assistance to victims, and organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site. CERT members can also help with non-emergency projects that help improve the safety of the community.

Brookline CERT

The Brookline CERT program was started by the Brookline Police Department in 2004. The CERT program is co-coordinated by Sergeant Hatchett and Officer Nick Goon. The program currently has over 250 certified volunteers who have attended the 10 week training program and are called upon to assist the Town for various incidents and activities. In addition to the 10 week certification program, there are regular training courses offered in partnership with the Brookline Medical Reserve Corps (MRC).

Brookline CERT Core Training Topics

- Introduction to CERT Program & Organization
- Surviving an Active Threat
- Situational Awareness
- Disaster Prep
- Emergency Preparedness & Family Communication Plans
- Light Search and Rescue Operations
- CPR, AED & First Aid Certification
- Traffic Direction
- Basic Fire Suppression
- Mass Care & Shelter Operations with American Red Cross

Supporting First Responders & the Community

The skills developed in this training will enable CERT volunteers to assist the Town's emergency workers during a major event, such as a critical incident, an ongoing crisis or pandemic, and to support the Town's programs, events and activities where additional help is needed.

These events include:

- Supporting the Town's Response to COVID
- Providing support at vaccination and testing clinics
- Annual Boston Marathon Reception Centers
- Helping with missing person searches
- Assisting residents impacted by manmade or weather-related crises
- Assisting at shelters and emergency dispensing sites
- Assisting with an evacuation
- Staffing Town's call center
- Leafleting and distribution public safety/health information
- Opening and operating shelters for displaced residents
- Assisting victims of building fires
- Helping throughout region following weather and other events
- Assisting at community events.

CERT Supporting During COVID

During COVID, our CERT volunteers have augmented Town and community resources by providing support to the Food Pantry, the town elections, the Farmer's Markets, BHS Graduations and other events/activities. They assisted with distributing COVID tests, leafleting of information on mask mandate, staffing the call center, providing support to vaccination and testing clinics and many other activities.