

*San Bernardino
County CERT
Advisory Committee*



Coffee Break

A stylized illustration of a brown coffee cup with a white rim, sitting on a matching saucer. A wisp of steam rises from the cup. The cup and saucer are rendered in a simple, clean style with some shading to give them a three-dimensional appearance.

Spring, 2016

Light Search and Rescue

Just like every other CERT operation, light search and rescue requires size-up at the beginning of the operation and continually as long as the operation continues.

Size-Up Steps

1. Gather facts
2. Assess damage
3. Consider probabilities
4. Assess your situation
5. Make decisions
6. Develop a plan of action
7. Take action Evaluate progress



Goals of Search and Rescue

- Keep rescuers safe
- Rescue greatest number in the shortest amount of time
- Get "walking wounded" out first
- Rescue lightly trapped victims next

Assess Damage

- Light – superficial or cosmetic damage, broken windows, fallen plaster; primary damage to contents of structure. Locate triage, and prioritize removal of victims to designated treatment areas by the medical operations team.

- Moderate – visible signs of damage, decorative work damaged or fallen, and many visible cracks in the wall surface, major damage to interior content, building is on its foundation (minimize the number of rescuers inside the building.)
- Heavy – obvious structural instability; partial or total wall collapse, ceiling failures. Secure the building perimeter, and control access into the structure by untrained but well-intentioned volunteers.

Search Markings

Experienced search and rescue personnel use the following system. The same system should be recognized and used by CERTs, this will save CERT members and other responders time during the search and continual size-up of the structure.

Search markings should be a large 2' x 2' square box made with the appropriate material (orange spray paint, lumber crayon, chalk etc.) on the outside of the main entrance to the structure.

Four Systems

Structure/Hazards Marking

- Indicates structural condition of buildings
- Indicates hazards present

Main Entrance Search Marking

- Indicates if victims are inside structure
- Provides search team accountability

Interior Search Marking

- Indicates which rooms or areas victims are in

Victim Marking

- Indicates specific location of victims

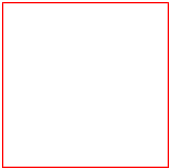
Structure/Hazards Markings

At the building entrance, the date, time, hazardous materials conditions, and team or company identifier will be placed outside the box on the right hand side.



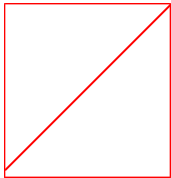
9/12/09
1310 hrs.
HM - nat. gas
BDC - R301

Structure is accessible and safe for search and rescue operations. Damage is minor with little danger of further collapse.



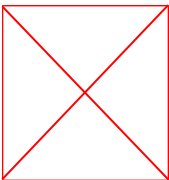
9/12/09
1310 hrs.
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Structure is significantly damaged. Some areas are relatively safe, but other areas may need shoring, bracing, or removal of falling/collapse hazards.



9/12/09
1310 hrs.
HM - nat. gas
BDC - R301

Structure is not safe for search or rescue operations. May be subject to sudden additional collapse. Remote search ops may proceed at significant risk.



9/12/09
1310 hrs.
HM - nat. gas
BDC - R301

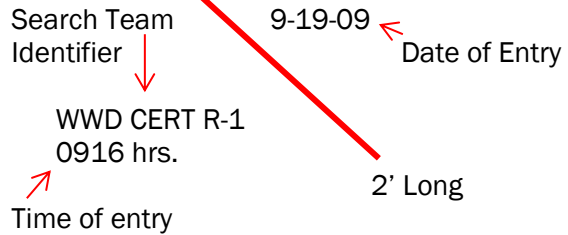
Arrow located next to a marking box indicates the direction to a safe entrance into the structure, should the marking box need to be made remote from the indicated entrance.



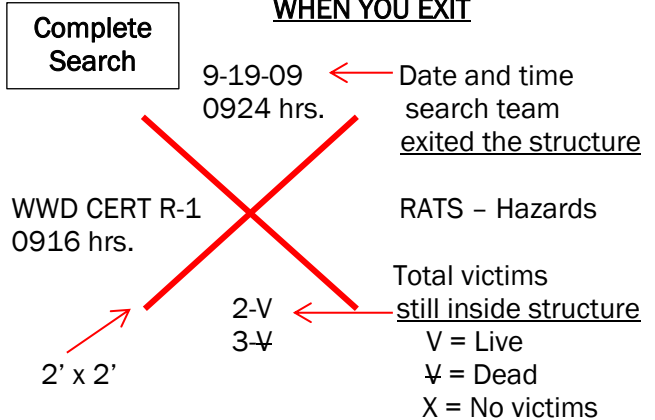
INFORMATION FROM: National Urban Search & Rescue (US&R) Response System, *Rescue Field Operations Guide*

Main Entrance Search Marking

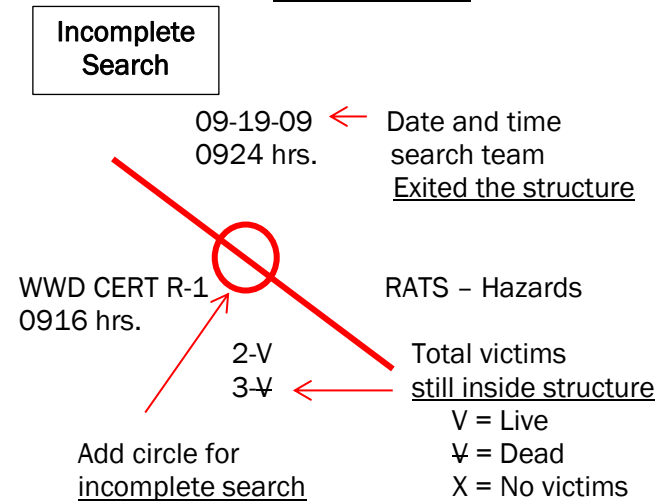
WHEN YOU ENTER



WHEN YOU EXIT



WHEN YOU EXIT



SBCCAC MISSION

The San Bernardino County CERT Advisory Committee (SBCCAC) exists to provide leadership and guidance to CERTs Countywide through the sharing of best practices, resources and information.

