



COUNTY OF ERIE

OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Kathy Dahlkemper
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

MEDIA RELEASE

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Erie County Public Safety Receives Federal Recognition for Emergency Response

Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper, along with Public Safety Director John Grappy, is pleased to announce that the Erie County Department of Public Safety will host a media conference at the Department of Public Safety, 2880 Flower Road, on **Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at 3:00 PM.**

The Erie County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) was recently recognized in a May 2015 publication by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for their response to State Correctional Institution (SCI) – Albion in March 2015.

On March 11, 2015, twelve volunteers from Erie County CERT quickly responded to a request for assistance at SCI – Albion when a freeze plug in the water tower dislodged and released 1,200 gallons of water per minute onto the prison grounds. Within an hour, CERT volunteers assisted the Erie County Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) Response team with the set up and operation of decontamination tents and water heaters.

The Erie County CERT includes nearly 100 volunteers that are divided into four categories: emergency operations center support, logistics, medical support, and HAZMAT rescue support.

“We are grateful for the CERT program’s swift response to quickly diffuse a potentially hazardous situation and meet the immediate health and safety needs of the population at SCI – Albion,” stated County Executive Dahlkemper.

Erie County CERT was established in January 2006 and conducts a basic training course 2 times per year.

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