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**COMPLETE**

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Page 1: Contact Info

**Q1**

Contact Info

Name	Christopher Williams
City/Town	Columbus
State/Province	OH
Email Address	chriswilliams@franklincountyohio.gov
Phone Number	6147240801

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**Q2**

Name of CERT Program you are affiliated with

Franklin County Community Emergency Response Team

**Q3**

Name of Government Agency you are an employee with if applicable

Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security

**Q4**

Please indicate your current CERT roles (choose all that apply)

CERT Program Manager,  
CERT Volunteer Coordinator,  
CERT Basic Instructor,  
Staff for local Emergency Management

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**Q5**

Please indicate your region (where you are physically based)

Region V - Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio,  
Wisconsin

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**Q6**

How many years have you been involved with CERT?

18

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**Q7**

Which CERT related courses have you taken (select all that apply)

**CERT Basic Training Course,**  
**CERT Train-the-Trainer Course,**  
**CERT Program Manager Course**

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**Q8**

Briefly describe your CERT experience

I was a CERT volunteer from 2003 until 2010 when I joined FCEM&HS. I have been a CERT Coordinator from 2010 until around 2016. I have been the CERT Program Manager from 2016 until present.

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**Q9**

Briefly describe a CERT project that you led or were a major part of and how it benefited your CERT program/community

I was able to reorganize the FC CERT Program as a paid part-time CERT Coordinator in 2010. I was able to secure different grants for CERT over the years to acquire training supplies, volunteer response packs, and response supplies. The largest grant was a regional 2016 SHSP grant for over \$90,000. This grant helped to build a sizable CERT emergency response cache based on the CERT participant manual. FC CERT has incident command, triage, and treatment capabilities and it can outfit approximately 600 CERT volunteers. Plans have been written including a strategy to give volunteers a roadmap to success. A sizable leadership team was developed for ICS positions, span of control, and to control the CERT disaster simulations at the end of each CERT Basic Training

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Page 3: Contribution as a NCA Board Member

**Q10**

Briefly describe how your skills, experience, and currently CERT related activities would be beneficial to the NCA and NCA Leadership team:

I plan to develop a National CERT Strategic Plan providing a roadmap to CERT Program Managers and CERT Program Coordinators across the nation. The roadmap would provide the past, present, and future of CERT with goals and objectives to meet to strengthen our national preparedness efforts. This plan is national in scope and would be based on federal documents, the five mission areas of preparedness (prevention, protection, mitigation, response, & recovery), NIMS, other federal strategic plans, etc. CERT programs across the nation need a unified mission and vision and they collectively need to be ready for all hazards at the national level including FEMA's National Planning Scenarios. CERT programs can provide another level of deterrence from terrorist attacks domestically or from nation state adversaries looking for soft targets.

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## Q11

NCA Board Members are required to lead/participate in NCA committees. Please indicate your level of interest in the following current/future NCA committees

CERT Awards Committee	0 - I am not interested in this committee
CERT Train-the-Trainer and Program Manager Committee Committee	6 - I am interested in leading this committee and have relevant experience in this area
CERT Volunteer Development and Support Committee	4 - I am interested in joining this committee had have relevant experience in this area
Communications Committee	2 - I will support this committee if needed and relevant experience in this area
Credentialing Committee	2 - I will support this committee if needed and relevant experience in this area
Elections Committee	0 - I am not interested in this committee
ID Card Committee	0 - I am not interested in this committee
International CERT Committee	0 - I am not interested in this committee
Marketing and Promotion Committee	0 - I am not interested in this committee
Membership Committee	0 - I am not interested in this committee
National CERT Conference Committee	3 - I am interested in joining this committee but have little experience in this area
Newsletter Committee	0 - I am not interested in this committee
Social Media Committee	0 - I am not interested in this committee
Training Committee	2 - I will support this committee if needed and relevant experience in this area
Youth Preparedness Committee	0 - I am not interested in this committee

## Q12

What are some projects that you think the NCA should be working on/emphasizing to better support CERT programs and how can you help lead this project?

I would like to develop a National CERT Strategic Plan similar to the plan I authored for FC CERT. This will be a roadmap to help other CERT Program Managers across the nation to have a unified mission and vision of what needs accomplished in an all hazards environment. This document would include references based on the 5 mission areas of preparedness, FEMA's National Planning Scenarios, and other relevant national documents.

### Q13

As a NCA Regional Representative, you are representing CERT programs in your region. Briefly describe your relationship with CERT programs in your region, including your communication channel and how you could represent them accurately.

I would like to build and sustain relationships with the other state CERT Coordinators within FEMA R-V. I think we share common risks within our region and I would like to find ways of ensuring that we can support one another. One idea is to create a FEMA R-V Strategic Plan that could be attached to the national strategic plan. Each region could develop their own internal goals and objectives based on their overall needs. I could attempt to develop a template for others to follow.

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### Q14

NCA Leadership candidates are required to have a recommendation from their next in line in the CERT Hierarchy. CERT Volunteers need a recommendation letter from their CERT Program Manager CERT Program Managers need a letter of recommendation from their CERT Sponsoring Agencies CERT Program Managers that are also the Sponsoring Agency Point of Contact need a letter of recommendation from their supervisor State/Territory CERT Coordinators need a letter of recommendation from their supervisor and/or FEMA Region

**CW Ltr Of Rec CERT.pdf (1MB)**

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### Q15

(optional) Please upload any additional letters of recommendations or supporting documents

**20210907\_letterofrecommendation\_CWilliams\_CERT\_signed.pdf (60.4KB)**

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### Q16

(optional) Please upload any additional letters of recommendations or supporting documents

**signed letter for CWilliams.pdf (888KB)**

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### Q17

(optional) Please upload any additional letters of recommendations or supporting documents

**Chris Williams.pdf (144.5KB)**

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**Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security**

5300 Strawberry Farms Boulevard

Columbus, Ohio 43230-1049

Office (614) 794-0213 Fax (614) 882-3209

[www.fcemhs.org](http://www.fcemhs.org)



8 September 2021

National CERT Association  
1865 Veterans Park Drive #203  
Naples, Florida, 34109, US

Dear Sir/Ma'am:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Chris Williams for his application to the National CERT Association (NCA) as a CERT Region V Regional Representative position. As the Deputy Director, I supervise Chris in his day-to-day duties as well as his responsibilities as the Volunteer Program Manager and the CERT Team coordinator. Chris is a dedicated and disciplined employee who brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to anything he attempts.

For over ten years, Chris has worked with the Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security (FCEM&HS) CERT Program. Initially hired as the Volunteer Coordinator, Chris utilized his in-depth knowledge of CERT and his fieldwork with FEMA to strengthen the agency's volunteer programs. Chris' work ethic and drive allowed him to work his way as the Resource Manager for the agency. Aside from those daily duties, Chris now manages hundreds of volunteers across CERT, Medical reserve Corps, Communications and Public Safety Support.

Chris regularly exhibits a high level of initiative and energy. His projects and plans are detailed and well-thought out. He is a strategic thinker with operational experience. Chris would make an excellent choice for the CERT Region V Regional Representative position.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (614)724-0910 or email at [dlkoerbe@franklincountyohio.gov](mailto:dlkoerbe@franklincountyohio.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Koerber", is written over a horizontal line.

Darrel Koerber  
Deputy Director, FCEM&HS





**Department of  
Public Safety**

Mike DeWine, Governor  
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor

Thomas J. Stickrath, Director  
Sima S. Merick, Executive Director



Matthew W. McCrystal, Branch Chief  
Ohio Emergency Management Agency  
2855 W. Dublin-Granville Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43235

September 7, 2021

Re: Recommendation for Chris Williams

To the National CERT Association Board:

Please accept my recommendation of Chris Williams for the National CERT Association's Region V Representative position. I first met Chris in 2012 where he was the CERT Program Manager for Franklin County (Ohio) Emergency Management and Homeland Security. Since then, I have worked with Chris in multiple roles including as a CERT Volunteer, as a volunteer instructor for his CERT program, as the state of Ohio's Medical Reserve Corp Coordinator, and in my current role as the Planning Training & Exercise Branch Chief with the Ohio Emergency Management Agency. As Branch Chief, I am fortunate to work with the state CERT Program Coordinator, Mr. Josh Vittie, who is also a member of the National CERT Association.

I strongly recommend Chris for this position as I have seen him operate with diligence and dedication in multiple exercises and real-world response including but not limited to the COVID-19 response in which the Franklin County CERT Program proved its worth and responded with excellence. Chris is extremely knowledgeable in emergency management and specifically in logistics and volunteer management. He is a graduate of the FEMA Basic, Advanced, and Executive Academies and would be a valuable addition to NCA.

If you have any questions regarding this letter of recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me at 614-519-9966 or via email at [mwmccrystal@dps.ohio.gov](mailto:mwmccrystal@dps.ohio.gov). Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Matthew W. McCrystal  
Branch Chief

605 Hennigan's Grove Road  
Grove City, Ohio 43123  
8 September 2021

National CERT Association  
1865 Veterans Park Drive #203  
Naples, Florida 34109

To the Board Members of the National CERT Association:

I am taking this opportunity to nominate Christopher Williams for the National CERT Association's Region V Representative position. I have known Chris for many years; first while I was a Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteer participating in full scale exercises for the county, as a student of the Franklin County CERT Program, as a colleague while I was the MRC Unit Coordinator for Franklin County, and most recently in my role as the State MRC Coordinator.

Chris is extremely knowledgeable in several aspects of emergency management, most notably in logistics and volunteer management. I have seen firsthand, the dedication and enthusiasm he has for the preparedness of our community. Chris even goes beyond our community as was evidenced during the COVID-19 response where he took the initiative to share resources with other counties in the Homeland Security Region 4 of Ohio. He stepped up to offer Franklin County MRC volunteer assistance immediately when he heard about the struggles of some regional communities trying to vaccinate the residents with inadequate resources.

Chris' leadership during the initial phase of the pandemic made for a seamless transition for CERT and MRC volunteers while events unfolded before our eyes. However, his expertise pre-COVID-19 was equally pronounced during other real-world events in our community.

Please accept my nomination of Chris Williams, whom I highly recommend, for the National CERT Association's Region V Representative position.

If you have any questions regarding this letter of recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me at 614-558-1293 or via email at [majanning@gmail.com](mailto:majanning@gmail.com).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Mary Ann Janning  
Colleague

Christopher Williams  
614-724-0801  
[chriswilliams@franklincountyohio.gov](mailto:chriswilliams@franklincountyohio.gov)  
State of Residence is Ohio  
FEMA Region V



**Atticus Garden | Disaster Program Manager | American Red Cross**  
614.296.8771 | [atticus.garden@redcross.org](mailto:atticus.garden@redcross.org) | 995 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43205

September, 15<sup>th</sup> 2021

**To whom it may concern:**

I am writing this reference at the request of Christopher Williams, who is applying for the position of Region V Regional Representative for the National Community Emergency Response Team Association. I serve as a volunteer for the Franklin County Community Emergency Response Team and Medical Reserve Corps and have had the pleasure to volunteer under Christopher's leadership since 2012. Professionally I work as the Disaster Program Manager for the American Red Cross, Greater Columbus Chapter. I frequently work alongside Christopher within his role at Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

Christopher has a number of strengths I'd like to share. He is a dedicated individual committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of those in our community. Chris consistently looks for ways to build up those around him and works to foster and cultivate those relationships. Due in large part to Christopher's leadership, Franklin County CERT and MRC has grown to be two of the strongest programs in the United States. Chris is a true leader in every sense of the word, and I consider him to be a great mentor.

In conclusion, I would highly recommend Christopher for this position. Region V would be lucky to have such a strong representative leading this important work at the national level. If you need any additional information, feel free to contact me at 614.296.8771 or by email at [atticus.garden@redcross.org](mailto:atticus.garden@redcross.org) anytime.

Sincerely,

**Atticus Garden** *Atticus Garden*  
**Disaster Program Manager**