

# #14

**COMPLETE**

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Page 1: Contact Info

## Q1

Contact Info

Name	<b>JOHN LALLY</b>
City/Town	<b>Imperial Beach</b>
State/Province	<b>CA</b>
Email Address	<b>john-lally@outlook.com</b>
Phone Number	<b>6197557921</b>

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## Q2

Name of CERT Program you are affiliated with

CERT San Diego

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## Q3

Name of Government Agency you are an employee with if applicable

None

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## Q4

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

**CERT Basic Instructor,**  
**CERT Volunteer with leadership responsibilities,**  
**CERT Volunteer,**  
Other (please specify):  
CERT Presenter-Represent San Diego CERT during community outreach

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## Q5

Please indicate your region (where you are physically based)

**Region IX - Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Guam, America Samoa, Mariana Islands, Marshall Islands, Micronesia**

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**Q6**

Eligible candidates for NCA Board of Directors At Large Member - CERT Volunteer Subject Matter Expert, candidates must not be paid for their CERT related activities at the time of candidacy and election. This includes if you are paid to support one CERT program and volunteer to support other CERT programs. Please confirm that you are unpaid for any CERT related activities

**I confirm that I currently do not receive any financial compensation for my CERT related activities**

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**Q7**

How many years have you been involved with CERT?

8 years

**Q8**

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

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

**Q9**

Briefly describe your CERT experience

During the eight years I have been a member of San Diego CERT, I have been fortunate to have progressed from completing the CERT Basic Training Course, to becoming one of the lead instructors and subject matter experts within the program. Through my experience and commitment to the CERT program, on multiple occasions, I have been designated to act as the alternate Program Manager when the primary Program Manager is unavailable. My CERT activations have included the distribution of sand bags to residents prior to expected flooding situations, assisting displaced residents at Temporary Evacuations Point during wildfires, and participating in food distributions and administrative support at multiple vaccination sites (both within the jurisdiction and as part of the local mutual aid agreements) during the COVID-19 pandemic. My non-activation experience includes representing San Diego CERT during recruitment fairs and community outreach, as well as providing disaster preparedness training to the community and local NGO's.

**Q10**

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

Following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic San Diego CERT has been called upon to assist local NGO's with food distribution during multiple events, including drive-thru distributions assisting more than 500-800 households each event, walk-up distributions assisting hundreds of individuals, and in-person delivery to isolated seniors within the community. Since the release of the COVID-19 vaccinations, San Diego CERT has not only assisted our own jurisdiction at massive vaccination sites, but have also been called upon to assist our smaller neighboring jurisdictions at their local vaccination sites as part of the mutual aid agreements. During both of these operations, I was relied upon to operate as the CERT lead on many occasions, or to perform technical administrative or supervisory functions routinely as the only volunteer alongside paid first responders.

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Page 3: Contribution as a NCA Board Member

**Q11**

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

In addition to my eight years of CERT experience, I hold a Master Degree in Homeland Security and Emergency Management from National University. I also have two national certifications in Homeland Security and Disaster Preparedness from the American Board for Certification in Homeland Security, as well as two Specialist Certificates in Infrastructure Protection and Infrastructure Disaster Management from Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service. My state Specialist Certifications include Terrorism and Homeland Security, Emergency Management, and Public Information Officer through the California Specialized Training Institute. I have also completed both the FEMA Professional Development Series as well as the Advanced Professional Series. When I combine this scholastic and technical experience with my 26 years of military service, I believe this provides me with a well-founded understanding of emergency management and disaster preparedness as well as a real-world familiarity with leadership, teamwork, and long-range vision needed by someone with the desire and commitment to help ensure the NCA is the most productive and effective version of itself possible.

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**Q12**

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	<b>5 - I would be willing to lead this committee but have little experience in this area</b>
CERT Train-the-Trainer and Program Manager Committee Committee	<b>3 - I am interested in joining this committee but have little experience in this area</b>
CERT Volunteer Development and Support Committee	<b>3 - I am interested in joining this committee but have little experience in this area</b>
Communications Committee	<b>4 - I am interested in joining this committee had have relevant experience in this area</b>
Credentialing Committee	<b>3 - I am interested in joining this committee but have little experience in this area</b>
Elections Committee	<b>4 - I am interested in joining this committee had have relevant experience in this area</b>
ID Card Committee	<b>4 - I am interested in joining this committee had have relevant experience in this area</b>
International CERT Committee	<b>3 - I am interested in joining this committee but have little experience in this area</b>
Marketing and Promotion Committee	<b>4 - I am interested in joining this committee had have relevant experience in this area</b>
Membership Committee	<b>5 - I would be willing to lead this committee but have little experience in this area</b>
National CERT Conference Committee	<b>4 - I am interested in joining this committee had have relevant experience in this area</b>
Newsletter Committee	<b>4 - I am interested in joining this committee had have relevant experience in this area</b>
Social Media Committee	<b>3 - I am interested in joining this committee but have little experience in this area</b>
Training Committee	<b>4 - I am interested in joining this committee had have relevant experience in this area</b>
Youth Preparedness Committee	<b>3 - I am interested in joining this committee but have little experience in this area</b>

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### Q13

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?

When I am out in the community representing San Diego CERT, whether in an activated/operational capacity, as a presenter to a community group, or when I mention CERT in a social conversation, the single most asked question I receive is "What is CERT?" When I finish explaining what CERT is and how it benefits the community, the second most asked question I receive is "Why haven't I heard of CERT before?" With both of these questions in mind, I feel the most pressing project for the NCA should be concentrating on is advertisement and education. By this, I mean assisting CERT programs in developing effective and efficient methods to present themselves to their respective communities. This benefits CERT programs in multiple ways, it can increase recruitment and also garner public support for local CERT programs. Increased recruitment and public support for CERT programs can translate into increased funding and training opportunities, both of which translate into a better prepared, better informed, and more resilient communities

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### Q14

As a NCA Board of Directors At Large member, you are representing specific CERT stakeholders based on your at large designation. Briefly describe your relationship with these stakeholders, including your communication channel and how you could represent them accurately.

If I am fortunate enough to serve as a Volunteer Subject Matter Expert Member-at-Large, the primary stakeholders I would represent are the citizen volunteers who are the heart and soul of any effective CERT program. During the eight years, I have been associated with San Diego CERT and have taught many CERT Basic Training Courses, continuing education, and refresher events. This experience has allowed me to observe and interact with a wide variety of CERT volunteers, from the enthusiastic volunteer looking for a way to serve their community, to the lone wolf volunteer who is only concerned with their own motivations. By having this familiarity, I recognize the balancing required to bring these unique groups together and function as a cohesive and efficient team. To this point in my CERT experience, I've been utilizing a "boots on the ground" approach to meet with members of other CERT programs and gain insight as to what works and doesn't work for their programs, then bringing this insight back to other CERT instructors and our CERT Program Manager for the possible incorporation into our program. Although San Diego is the eighth-largest metropolitan area, and the fifth-largest county in the nation, my communication channels do have their limitations. As a Member-at-Large, I would have access to the experience, knowledge, and skill sets of a much wider team. By utilizing the various NCA committees, training, newsletter, and social media, I would be able to not only deliver these insights to our national CERT team, but also welcome feedback from a much larger knowledge and experience pool.

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### Q15

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

**Ltr of Recommendation ICO Lally, John J.pdf (148.7KB)**

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### Q16

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

**Ltr of Recommendation for John Lally.pdf (25.5KB)**

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August 27, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

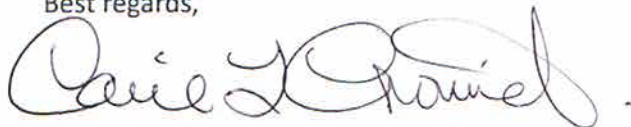
I am very happy to provide this letter of reference for Mr. John Lally's application to the NCA Board of Directors as a member-at-large. I am the program manager for the City of San Diego's CERT program. John joined our program in 2013 and from the beginning he was helpful, knowledgeable, and always willing to go the extra mile for the program and his fellow CERT San Diego team members.

As a retired Navy Chief, John's more than 20 years of service gave him a strong foundation in public service, compassion, and knowledge in safety and preparedness, all tenants found in our CERT program. Since joining CERT San Diego, John has played increasingly important roles. He was active in the HAM radio team and became a T3 certified volunteer CERT instructor. John also taught in multiple academies and refreshers, delivered a variety of continuing education trainings, and represented CERT San Diego during community outreach events and a national CERT conference. No matter the event, John always receives the highest accolades from his fellow volunteers and volunteer managers for his participation.

Most recently, he represented CERT San Diego during an activation at the City of San Diego's vaccination sites starting in early 2021. Further, he worked as part of a CERT Mutual Aid Plan (MAP) team with CERT members from across the county and members of the American Red Cross team to set up temporary evacuation points (TEPs) during the Valley Fire. He is a natural leader and communicator who knows how to get just about any job done efficiently and professionally.

I am certain John will make an outstanding NCA Board of Directors member-at-large. If there are any questions I can answer, please do not hesitate to contact me at (619) 980-3532 or (951) 970-8589.

Best regards,



Carie Chouinard  
CERT San Diego Program Manager  
City of San Diego Fire-Rescue Department

August 9, 2021

NCA Elections Committee

Dear NCA Elections Committee,

This is a letter of recommendation for John Lally. I worked with John Lally during the 2019 California CERT Conference. John is a volunteer with the San Diego City CERT program. John assisted with logistics for the conference and proved himself to be a reliable and hard-working individual.

While my experience with John has been limited, his CERT Program Manager, Carie Chouinard, has often commented to me on his contribution to their CERT program. I have no doubt that John would be a great contributor to the NCA Leadership team and help lead projects to support CERT volunteers.

Thanks

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Suu-Va Tai', enclosed within a large, loopy oval shape.

Suu-Va Tai  
State CERT Administrator, California