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COMPLETE

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Page 1: Contact Info

Q1

Contact Info

Name	Suu-Va Tai
City/Town	Sacramento
State/Province	CA
Email Address	suuva.tai@caloes.ca.gov
Phone Number	916-524-3964

Q2

Name of CERT Program you are affiliated with

State of California

Q3

Name of Government Agency you are an employee with if applicable

California Office of Emergency Services

Q4

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

**Staff for a State or Territory Government Agency,
State or Territory CERT Coordinator**

Q5

Please indicate your region (where you are physically based)

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

Page 2

Q6

How many years have you been involved with CERT?

12

Q7

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

Q8

Briefly describe your CERT experience

I have been the State CERT Coordinator for California for 12 years. I helped spearhead the creation of the National CERT Association. I have led major CERT projects including: State and National CERT conferences, National CERT related training webinars, the QuickSeries CERT Field Operations Guide, etc. I also successfully lobbied for CERT to be part of a 50 million dollar preparedness campaign in California from 2019-2021, with CERT programs in CA getting 8 million in grant funding. I have strong partnerships with other CERT subject matter leaders throughout the US. I have worked with China, Laos, and Chile on their CERT programs and am currently working to bring CERT to the UK, Argentina, and Vietnam.

Q9

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

I led the creation of the National CERT Association (NCA). The NCA strives to increase the communication and resource sharing amongst CERT programs and CERT leaders. Over the last two years, I have worked hard to build relationships with State and FEMA CERT Coordinators and have initiated several projects such as the CERT Professional Development Resources webinar series.

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 have a strong working relationship with many CERT leaders throughout the US as well as leaders with other organizations involved with disaster preparedness, response, and recovery. Working for the California Office of Emergency Services and overseeing over 400 CERT programs, I have the benefit of being involved with a lot of projects that can be elevated to a national level to benefit the NCA and other CERT programs.

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	4 - I am interested in joining this committee had have relevant experience in this area
CERT Volunteer Development and Support Committee	0 - I am not interested in this committee
Communications Committee	0 - I am not interested in this committee
Credentialing Committee	6 - I am interested in leading this committee and have relevant experience in this area
Elections Committee	4 - I am interested in joining this committee had have relevant experience in this area
ID Card Committee	6 - I am interested in leading this committee and have relevant experience in this area
International CERT Committee	6 - I am interested in leading this committee and have relevant experience in this area
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	4 - I am interested in joining this committee had have relevant experience in this area
Newsletter Committee	4 - I am interested in joining this committee had have relevant experience in this area
Social Media Committee	0 - I am not interested in this committee
Training Committee	4 - I am interested in joining this committee had have 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?

The NCA should work with FEMA to offer some advanced training for CERT Program Managers and Instructors

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 have a strong relationship with the CERT programs in my region and the other State/Territory/FEMA CERT Coordinators in my region. I communicate regularly with the CERT programs in my state.

August 10, 2021

NCA Elections Committee


Dear NCA Elections Committee,

This is a letter of recommendation for Suu-Va Tai. As the Regional Preparedness Liaison and Contract Support for FEMA Region 9, I have worked closely with Suu-Va regarding preparedness and CERT programming for the past 7 years. Suu-Va has been a key leader and contributor to the California CERT Advisory Workgroup and countless California CERT projects including State and National CERT Conferences.

He is a CERT subject matter expert and great resource for CERT development and his leadership and ability to connect with and assist stakeholders to develop CERT programs is without exception. As a matter of fact, Suu-Va Tai's expertise in CERT development and education is sought after in other FEMA regions throughout the country.

I strongly believe that the National CERT Association would benefit greatly with Suu-Va Tai on the Leadership team.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vincent Martinez', with a stylized, cursive script.

Vincent Martinez
Regional Preparedness Liaison, Contract Support
FEMA Region 9
National Preparedness Division