

# Central Texas Disaster Action Response Team

## Code of Conduct

For the safety of yourself and others you must follow the directions given to you by your assigned supervisor.

During training events your supervisor will be a class instructor. In the event of an emergency, direction may come from the Program Manager, fire or police department supervisors or military personnel. **DO NOT** call 9-1-1 to ask if CenTex DART has been activated or requested.

Standing Orders for current CenTex DART members will be to assist your home and family then your immediate neighbors. Make sure to secure your home or workplace and check your immediate neighborhood before reporting for community response duties. Note areas of damage and concern. Bring your search and rescue bag, identification (CenTex DART and Driver's License), and cell phone.

Emergency response is a team effort. Acting independently of the coordinated emergency response plan can be dangerous and is not permitted. A violation of "self-deploying" to any emergency event will result in the forfeiture of your CenTex DART Identification card, removal from the Disaster Response Team.

If you find yourself in an emergency situation and have not yet been assigned to a supervisor, it is critical that your decisions and actions are based on sound judgement and the need to save and protect lives, including your own and rescue workers. CenTex DART members are volunteers and are expected to act responsibly and treat all other volunteers, community members and emergency response personnel with respect. Some members of the police, sheriff, National Guard or assisting fire agencies may not be aware of CenTex DART and they may turn you away at a scene. Report back to the CenTex DART Program Manager who originally contacted you requesting your assistance on the incident if you encounter resistance.

There are many areas where CenTex DART may be needed so your contact information is vital to any emergency event. If you move or change phone numbers, increase your training level in disaster response or no longer have an interest in participating, please contact the CenTex DART Program Manager at 254-218-5957.

Failure to follow the Code of Conduct and act responsibly during any CenTex DART event may result in participant being dismissed from Disaster Action Response Team.

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## Code of Conduct

By signing below, you acknowledge that you have accepted and are willing to uphold and comply with this Code of Conduct as a CenTex DART member.

As a CenTex DART member I will:

- Exercise safety as my first priority.
- Respect others and *refrain from using profanity* while representing CenTex DART.
- Follow all rules and regulations as indicated by the Program Manager.
- Accommodate community members with special needs.
- Communicate actions and information taken, by myself and team members, during emergencies, to local emergency responders once they arrive on the scene.
- Follow directions of first responders (Police & Fire Departments, OEM, Texas Rangers) once on scene. If you have any question please immediate contact a CenTex DART Program Manager or Team Lead.
- Obey all City, State and Federal laws and regulations.

As a CenTex DART member, I will not:

- Attempt to perform any skills or response beyond the level of my DART training. As such, I agree that I will not:
  - Attempt to suppress large fires.
  - Attempt to enter structures that appear to me to be heavily damaged and dangerous (e.g., leaning or moved from foundation).
  - Attempt to perform hazardous materials cleanup or respond to incidents involving radiological, chemical, or biological agents.
  - Attempt to perform medical, fire or search and rescue operations beyond my level of DART training.

Violation of any of these proscribed activities will result in termination as a participant in the CenTex DART program.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_