

## CERT Member Monthly Newsletter - September 2024



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## Upcoming CERT Training

### **CERT Traffic/Crowd control management**

- Mon, September 23, 6:30pm – 9:00pm
- Atoka City Hall, 334 Atoka-Munford Rd, Atoka, TN 38004

The most up-to-date information is located on the CERT program calendar. You can subscribe to this calendar and get alerts on your phone. Click the link below for more details.

[CERT Calendar](#)

# ICISF Crisis Response Training

A very rare and unique opportunity is coming to West Tennessee! This training is expensive and does not come to West Tennessee but it's here and it's free. If you pass up this opportunity, it will not come back.

**Assisting Individuals and Group Crisis Intervention** is being taught in Madison County.

This is a 3-day course which combines both Individual and Group Crisis courses to teach participants the fundamentals of, and a specific protocol for, individual & group crisis intervention.

Designed to present the core elements of a comprehensive, systematic and multi-component crisis intervention curriculum, this course will prepare participants to understand a wide range of crisis intervention services for both the individual and for groups. Fundamentals of Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) will be outlined and participants will leave with the knowledge and tools to provide several group crisis interventions, specifically demobilizations, defusings and the Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD). The need for appropriate follow-up services and referrals when necessary will also be discussed. The need for appropriate follow-up services and referrals, when necessary, will also be discussed.

## What You Will Learn

- Psychological crisis and psychological crisis intervention
- Resistance, resiliency, recovery continuum
- Critical incident stress management
- Evidence-based practice
- Basic crisis communication techniques
- Common psychological and behavioral crisis reactions
- Putative and empirically-derived mechanisms
- SAFER-Revised model
- Suicide intervention
- Relevant research findings
- Large group crisis interventions
- Small group crisis interventions
- Adverse outcome associated with crisis intervention
- Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD)

Training is being held at Faith Baptist Church, 1602 Gallatin Pike North, Madison, TN 37115. Sign up

at: [https://reg.learningstream.com/reg/event\\_page.aspx?ek=0058-0021-56a7fe8a105f4228b5d848eb29a0e175](https://reg.learningstream.com/reg/event_page.aspx?ek=0058-0021-56a7fe8a105f4228b5d848eb29a0e175)

This training is provided by Crisis Response Care, an educational division of K-LOVE. Some of our members have been through this training so it comes highly recommended.



New York City Community Emergency Response Team (NYC CERT) members performing traffic and crowd control at a planned event.

## The Importance of Traffic Control

Traffic control at large events is a crucial aspect of event planning, designed to manage the flow of vehicles and pedestrians safely and efficiently. Without proper traffic control, events can become chaotic, leading to traffic jams, accidents, and disruptions to local communities. Effective traffic control not only ensures the safety of event attendees but also minimizes the impact on surrounding areas. Below is a detailed discussion of the key elements and importance of traffic control at large events:

### 1. Safety of Event Attendees and the Public

- **Preventing Accidents:** Large events draw significant numbers of vehicles and pedestrians, which increases the risk of accidents. By implementing traffic control measures such as road closures, designated pedestrian paths, and speed restrictions, the likelihood of accidents can be greatly reduced.
- **Crowd and Vehicle Separation:** Proper traffic control ensures that pedestrians and vehicles are separated in areas where large crowds gather, reducing the risk of collisions. Barriers, temporary fencing, and clear signage help create safe zones for attendees.
- **Emergency Access:** In the event of an emergency, traffic control measures ensure that emergency vehicles have clear and unhindered access to the site. Dedicated emergency lanes and personnel managing traffic can help responders reach incidents quickly.

## **2. Efficient Flow of Traffic**

- **Avoiding Congestion:** Large events can lead to significant congestion in surrounding areas, particularly if traffic is not properly managed. Traffic control plans that include detour routes, temporary road closures, and parking guidance help alleviate congestion.
- **Effective Use of Parking Areas:** Events require well-organized parking, including both on-site and off-site locations. Traffic controllers guide vehicles to parking areas, minimizing confusion and reducing the risk of vehicles blocking roadways or parking illegally.
- **Use of Public Transport:** Traffic control may also incorporate public transportation options such as shuttle buses, park-and-ride facilities, or temporary public transport routes. Encouraging the use of public transportation helps reduce the number of vehicles entering and exiting the event site.

## **3. Law Enforcement and Security**

- **Managing Unauthorized Access:** Large events can attract people trying to gain unauthorized access to restricted areas. Traffic control personnel, along with law enforcement, manage the entry points, ensuring only authorized vehicles can enter certain areas.
- **Crowd Control:** Traffic control plays a role in overall crowd management. By controlling how attendees arrive at and leave the event, planners can prevent overcrowding at entrances and exits, ensuring orderly movement.

## **4. Event-Specific Considerations**

- **Special Event Traffic Plans (SET Plans):** For large events, authorities may require a Special Event Traffic Plan. This plan is developed in cooperation with local traffic authorities, law enforcement, and event organizers to manage the impact of the event on surrounding roadways.
- **Peak Traffic Management:** Events often generate traffic peaks before and after the event. Traffic control plans are designed to handle these peaks, such as assigning traffic marshals to direct vehicles during peak times and adjusting traffic signals to prioritize traffic flow near the event.
- **Coordination with Local Agencies:** Event planners work closely with local transportation departments, police, and emergency services to ensure traffic control plans align with broader transportation strategies and local needs.

## **5. Technology and Modern Traffic Control Solutions**

- **Variable Message Signs (VMS):** Electronic signage is used to provide real-time information to drivers, such as changes in traffic flow, road closures, or parking availability. VMS helps guide attendees to their destinations with minimal confusion.
- **Traffic Signal Adjustments:** Traffic signals near the event venue may be temporarily adjusted to accommodate increased traffic flow. Signal timing may be extended at critical intersections to help prevent long backups.

- **Intelligent Traffic Systems (ITS):** Advanced traffic management systems that use sensors and real-time data can be employed to monitor traffic conditions and adjust strategies on the fly. For example, ITS can be used to control access to parking lots or detect congestion points that need immediate attention.

## **6. Pedestrian Traffic Control**

- **Designated Crossing Points:** In areas where pedestrian traffic is heavy, traffic control includes creating safe crossing points, often with personnel directing foot traffic. Ensuring that pedestrians have safe routes to enter and exit the event without crossing busy roads is vital.
- **Managing Egress:** As the event ends, there is usually a mass exodus of attendees. Traffic control measures such as staggered exits, pedestrian pathways, and controlling vehicle egress are crucial to avoiding overcrowded areas and traffic jams.

## **7. Environmental and Community Impact**

- **Minimizing Neighborhood Disruption:** Large events can disrupt local communities, particularly in residential areas. Traffic control measures, such as rerouting traffic away from neighborhoods or restricting parking on residential streets, help reduce the negative impact on local residents.
- **Promoting Environmental Sustainability:** Encouraging the use of public transportation, bicycles, or ridesharing reduces the carbon footprint of the event. Traffic control plans can incorporate designated areas for ride-sharing and bike parking to promote more sustainable transport options.

## **8. Temporary Traffic Devices and Personnel**

- **Cones and Barriers:** Temporary devices such as cones, barriers, and signage are used to direct vehicles and pedestrians safely. These can be set up to create temporary lanes, direct people to parking areas, or block off restricted zones.
- **Traffic Control Personnel:** Trained personnel, such as traffic marshals or police officers, play an essential role in directing vehicles and managing pedestrian traffic. They are particularly important during peak times and in areas with complex traffic conditions.

## **9. Post-Event Traffic Management**

- **Managing Exit Routes:** Post-event traffic often creates bottlenecks as thousands of people try to leave simultaneously. Traffic control plans address this by managing exits, creating one-way traffic flows, and staggering departures to reduce congestion.
- **Clearing Temporary Devices:** After the event, traffic control personnel are responsible for removing temporary devices and restoring the roadway to its normal state, ensuring minimal disruption to regular traffic flow.

In closing, effective traffic control at large events is critical for maintaining safety, minimizing congestion, and reducing the event's impact on the surrounding community. A well-thought-out traffic management plan that integrates safety measures, coordination with local authorities, modern technology, and careful planning ensures a smoother experience for attendees and a safer environment for everyone. Most importantly, this article describes why we need YOU at our next training class.

## Stay Informed & Get Connected

For the latest updates on community safety, crime prevention tips, and local events, we encourage you to visit the Tipton Constables Facebook page. Stay informed about the efforts of our dedicated law enforcement officers as they work tirelessly to keep our community safe. By following the page, you'll gain access to valuable information, timely alerts, and opportunities to engage with your local constables. Join the Tipton Constables Facebook community today and be an active participant in fostering a safer, more connected neighborhood. Your involvement makes a difference!



[CERT Program Website](#)

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Photo: Munford High School event with large crowds.

# What's a Crowd Manager

A crowd manager plays a vital role in ensuring the safety and security of people in large gatherings. Their duties are typically defined by fire codes, event regulations, and safety laws to help prevent accidents, ensure crowd control, and facilitate evacuation in emergencies. Here's a breakdown of their responsibilities, associated rules, and key points to consider:

## Duties of a Crowd Manager

- Monitor the Crowd:
  - Continuously assess the size, behavior, and movement of the crowd.
  - Ensure that entrances, exits, and emergency paths are unobstructed.
- Coordinate with Authorities:
  - Work with fire marshals, police, and other emergency personnel to develop emergency plans.
  - Liaise with event organizers, security teams, and facility management.
- Enforce Fire and Safety Codes:
  - Ensure that the venue complies with local fire codes, including capacity limits, and that safety equipment (e.g., fire extinguishers) is accessible and functional.
  - Monitor for potential fire hazards or other safety risks.
- Control Access Points:
  - Supervise entrances and exits to control flow and ensure the crowd does not exceed venue capacity.
  - Check for ticketing compliance or prevent unauthorized access if required.
- Implement Emergency Procedures:
  - Train staff and coordinate emergency evacuation plans.
  - Assist with crowd dispersal in emergencies, ensuring a safe and orderly evacuation.
  - Provide clear instructions during evacuations or emergencies.
- Monitor Behavior:
  - Detect and address disruptive, aggressive, or dangerous behaviors.
  - Ensure compliance with venue rules (e.g., no smoking or the use of restricted items).
- Health and First Aid:
  - Be familiar with basic first aid procedures and assist in medical emergencies.
  - Monitor crowd members for signs of distress, such as dehydration or panic.

## Relevant Rules and Regulations:

- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 101 – Life Safety Code:
  - The NFPA 101 requires crowd managers at public assembly events where there is a gathering of 50 or more people.



- A minimum of one crowd manager is required for every 250 people in attendance.
- Crowd managers must undergo specific training to ensure they understand emergency procedures, fire hazards, and general safety responsibilities.
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA):
  - OSHA regulations mandate that crowd managers are aware of general safety hazards and ensure that crowd management does not compromise the health and safety of individuals.
  - OSHA may also regulate conditions under which crowd managers work, including ensuring a safe working environment.
- ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Compliance:
  - Crowd managers must ensure that individuals with disabilities can safely navigate the venue.
  - Accessible routes, emergency exits, and assistance for disabled persons must be prioritized.

### **Key Considerations for Crowd Managers:**

- Training: Crowd managers should receive formal training in crowd dynamics, emergency procedures, and fire safety. Certification programs are often provided by fire authorities or event management bodies.
- Pre-Event Planning: They should participate in pre-event safety briefings, walk-throughs, and risk assessments to identify any specific hazards or challenges posed by the event.
- Communication: They should be equipped with communication devices (e.g., radios) to coordinate with other safety personnel and ensure clear instructions during emergencies.
- Proactive Measures: It is essential for crowd managers to adopt a proactive stance—anticipating risks, identifying potential hazards, and ensuring that all staff and event attendees are informed about safety protocols.

The role of a crowd manager is critical in ensuring the safety and smooth operation of events, particularly in large gatherings. Understanding and adhering to local regulations, maintaining clear communication, and being prepared to implement emergency procedures are essential aspects of the job.

## **Let's Connect...**

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# What's in a Name

The Tipton County Constables have adopted the CERT program formerly named Medical Support Command/National Disaster Response managed by Doug Justice. As part of the transition and proper registration with FEMA, it was discovered that our program name needed to conform with the geographic standards for team names. West Tennessee CERT is rather ambitious and discounts the efforts in other nearby counties. Our registration with FEMA indicates a new team name: Tipton County (Constables) CERT. With any transition, there are new ideas and new opportunities. While we're still the same great team, there's a lot of exciting opportunities on the horizon.

# What's a Constable?

Constables operate as individually elected county officials at no cost to the citizens or governments of the county. Constables supply their vehicles, fuel, and equipment. They stand ready to aid or assist all citizens and/or agencies within the county. The Tennessee Constable is a non salaried office! ABSOLUTELY no tax dollars are used to support the Constable's office.

The mission of the Constable's Office is to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Tipton County by working collaboratively with area law enforcement, General Sessions court, and our community to prevent crime, enforce the law, increase mobility, and target violent offenders for prosecution.

They hand-in-hand with the county Sheriff's Office and local Police Departments. Constables are also at the disposal of the various fire departments, EMS units, and rescue squads as well as any state or federal agency which might have use of their services.

**Integrity - Compassion - Service Before Self - Excellence**