

CERT Team Meeting Minutes - August 17, 2024



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Thank you, and I look forward to your feedback on this month's newsletter.

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Members in Attendance

- Marcella Harris
- Hap Oliver
- William Warhurst
- Robert "Bob" Govero
- Bryan Styer
- Doug Justice
- Connie Bradshaw
- William "Bill" Hughes
- Darren Smith

Coming Up

Munford Celebrate - there's a need to schedule volunteers for this day. Under the leadership of Doug Justice, we have the booth to conduct the promotion the team wants to do. A strong showing by our team is essential to ensure our desires are fulfilled.

Training - the training schedule is always at the Constable website, CERT, Calendar:

CERT Communications

Mon, August 26, 6:30pm – 9:00pm

[See the CERT Calendar](#)

Annual Leadership Meeting

On Saturday, August 17th, we held a workshop is to identify directions and resources for the upcoming year, including new training opportunities (like Drones) and new training partners (like local fire/police departments). We generated a list of what we were doing well, what needed improvement, and a wish list to move the CERT team to the next level for the upcoming year.

Good:

- Curriculum
- Scheduled meetings – weeknights

Improve

- More Hands On
- More varied instructors
- More field exercises
 - Search & Rescue
 - Setting up a command post
 - Technician license
- Communicating meetings, efforts made
 - Facebook
 - Email
 - Text message
 - Use all options available
- Printed Materials
- Information Handout – CERT Team - Doug started this
- All talk – no action, need to start taking actions
- Relationships with agencies
- Meeting EMA Director, Munford Fire, Police
- EMS Director – Logan Sikes, Dyersburg state
- Professional level meetings - engage

Wishlist for the future:

- MOU with Agencies (police, fire, ema, radios)
- CERT kit equipment added to the Website
- More visibility
 - Public events
 - SRO – Teen Cert
 - Billboard promotion, cost
- iamresponding - cost
- County website
- Church groups – Big Hatchie Baptist
- Women’s Group – “Tipton social”
- Boy scouts
- Tipton County Veterans Council
- Hospital
- Ms. Lee Race – enhancing CERT team (training)
- Disaster Disciples Curriculum

ALL are welcome. ALL levels of physical ability can participate in disaster preparedness to safeguard our community. Exciting times are coming as we build our relationships throughout the county and become adopted by the Tipton County Constables.

Additional Discussion

The following topics were discussed:

- Teen CERT - creating opportunities for teens in Tipton County - working with School Resource Officers (SRO) in the area.
- How do we want to communicate with each member? All available options
- When is the best time for our chapter to meet? Currently Monday evenings
- Desire to use each individual's skills to support the mission. Example, Danielle, mounted patrol. Find out what each other can do and do it well
- The Constable’s website was discussed as a place to go for further training and information
- Need to share training with other CERT organizations
- The need for an Info flyer - Doug has started work on this.
- Marcella Harris brought up the possibility of using dogs for search/rescue or tracking. The dog needs to be a certified tracker, NOT a trained police dog, unless handled by the Officer/Handler
- Promotion - Munford Celebrate coming up, need to schedule volunteers to ensure our discussion today is fulfilled.
- Brian Styer said that Mid-South Solutions carried certified CERT kits
- William Hughes brought up the subject of liability insurance for us. Doug brought up Good Samaritan Law.

The Value of a Mounted Patrol

by Danielle Pool, FF/EMT

As Danielle was absent, we were not able to discuss this further than the handout provided.

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 Team Website](#)

[Constable's Blog](#)

Law Enforcement & CERT

We discussed the value of aligning with law enforcement and the type of projects available to CERT as a result.

Let's Connect...

[Constable's Facebook Page](#)

[CERT Facebook Page](#)



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Tipton County Constables Mounted Patrol – Dedicated to serving our neighbors in Tipton County

The CERT Mounted Patrol is a vital component of the Tipton County Constable's Office. It provides education, safety advice, event security, search and rescue, and an enjoyable experience for the citizens of Tipton County. Volunteers can specialize in any specific area of the mounted patrol's activities.

Like all CERT volunteers, members carry the constable's office's photo ID card. The volunteers of the unit are civilian volunteers, and do not have law enforcement authority. The mounted patrol is comprised of both mounted riders and ground volunteers. Horse and rider teams must train and become certified to participate in events. If you have experience with horses, you are welcome to be part of the team.

For riders, you must be an experienced trail rider with access to a horse you can ride for at least 60 hours per year in the county. The horse must be a minimum of 15.2 hands and two (2) to ten (10) years of age. You and your horse must also pass a rigorous certification test, administered by the CERT mounted patrol leader. You will be tested on your skills, and your horse will be evaluated for training and temperament. The horse must be able to tolerate a variety of potentially frightening experiences. Anything that the mounted patroller may encounter in a park -- from children waving balloons in the horse's face to charging off-leash dogs -- must not cause the horse to do anything dangerous. You must transport your horse to your initial certification, annual re-certification rides, training, and special events.

Members are asked to volunteer a minimum of six hours a month at mounted training events, monthly personnel meetings, and different types of patrol opportunities. You will be expected to attend at least nine of our twelve-monthly membership meetings each year on the second Monday evening of each month in Atoka or Brighton.

Events include:

- Urban street patrols (alleys, shopping centers, libraries, community centers, parks, commercial districts) throughout Tipton county
- Back-country trail and preserve patrols
- Holiday watch patrols in commercial parking lots during the holiday season
- Parade routes, rodeo, and fair perimeter patrols
- Participation in law enforcement memorial services
- Meet and greets with law enforcement events and schools.

To qualify for the Mounted Patrol, all applicants must:

- Be physically fit and at least 18 years of age
- Submit a complete application
- Have a valid driver license and car insurance
- Have a healthy, or have access to, well-mannered horse
- Own, or have access to, and maintain a livestock trailer and tow vehicle
- Pass a complete background investigation

- Complete CERT training and mounted patrol training.

We welcome your support as a volunteer (rider or grounds person), as a donor, or as a corporate sponsor.



Resources:

Horse certification - East Bay Regional Park District - parkpatrol.org - 510.881.1833 - Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, California

Mounted Patrol Training - San Diego County Sheriff's Department - SheriffMounted@sdsheriff.org –

Donations needed: <https://www.houstontx.gov/police/mounted/donations.htm>