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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Free Emergency Response Training Available for DeKalb Residents**

*Two class opportunities begin in September*

**DECATUR, Ga.** – DeKalb County Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) is hosting two free Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training classes.

The first nine-week class begins on Sept. 5 and will be held on Tuesday evenings from 7–9:30 p.m. at DeKalb Fire Rescue Headquarters, 1950 West Exchange Place, Tucker, GA 30084.

A second nine-week CERT class for the deaf and hearing-impaired, with certified American Sign Language interpreters, will begin on Sept. 7 and will be held on Thursday evenings from 7–9:30 p.m. at DeKalb Fire Rescue Headquarters.

Participants will learn what to do before, during and after a disaster occurs. The training will also teach citizens to care for family members and neighbors.

Course topics include:

- Disaster preparedness
- Basic fire suppression
- Medical operations
- Light search and rescue operations
- Disaster psychology
- Team organization and terrorism
- Autism awareness

The workshop is free for DeKalb County citizens, and all participants must pass a background check. For more information or to register, contact Emergency Management Specialist Thomas Paige at [tpaige@dekalbcountyga.gov](mailto:tpaige@dekalbcountyga.gov) or 678-406-7858.

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