



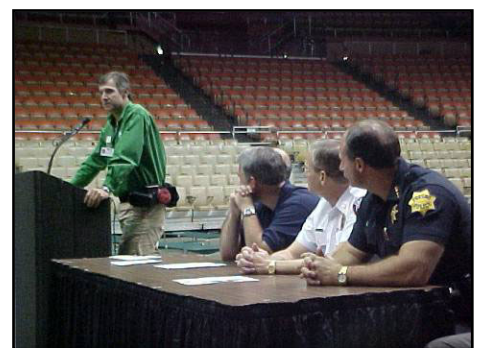
September 2005  
Fresno Citizen Corps  
2326 Fresno Street  
Fresno, California 93721  
(559) 621-2328  
CitizenCorps@fresno.gov  
www.certfresno.org

## THE CERT ALERT

### PATRIOTS DAY – NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH 2005



On Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, more than 60 CERT volunteers gathered for the annual Patriots Day and National Preparedness Month event. This year the event was held at the reception center and shelter that had been set-up by the City, County and Red Cross to accommodate survivors of Hurricane Katrina. Timely and compelling comments regarding community and family preparedness, collaboration with disaster response professionals, and the importance of trained volunteers were offered by Police Chief Jerry Dyer, Fire Chief Randy Bruegman, City Manager Andy Souza, Citizen Corps chairman, Pete Weber and Emergency Services Coordinator, Rainer Streib. The CERT volunteers were also sworn-in as Disaster Service Workers by City Clerk, Becky Klich. We were also pleased to be joined by representatives from the Offices of Congressman George Radanovich; and Assembly members Juan Arambula and Mike Villines, as CERT volunteers and instructors were recognized and commended for their service.



One of the highlights of this event was a presentation by CERT instructor, Kevin McCartney. Kevin completed Red Cross Shelter Management and Mass Care when the course was offered as continuing education through CERT, and was thus able to deploy immediately to Houston. Kevin was among the first volunteers on scene to set-up the Astrodome and became the manager of the Reliant Center shelter when it was opened to 18,000 hurricane survivors. **We extend special thanks to Kevin and all our guest speakers—and deep appreciation and encouragement to the CERT, Medical Reserve Corps and Red Cross volunteers; and members of the ANG 144<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing and other local emergency service professionals who are serving in the Gulf.**