



## Shelby County Office of Preparedness HLS / EMA

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### Shelby County Offers Free Preparedness Training



**Photo Caption:** CERT students on the fire field September 14, 2013, during the "Fire Suppression" module

Disasters such as earthquakes, major fires, chemical spills, power outages, as well as inclement weather events resulting in tornadoes, flooding, and excessive heat and cold can happen with little warning, when we least expect it. **Are you prepared for the next emergency?** Do you and your family know how to shelter-in-place or evacuate at a moment's notice?

The Shelby County Office of Preparedness, under the direction of Bob Nations, Jr., is offering free Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training to help you "get ready!" This comprehensive, two-day class includes life-saving information utilizing lectures, videos, and hands-on exercises. Students learn how to extinguish a small fire, perform disaster triage and first-aid, practice light search and rescue, how to stay away from hazardous materials, how to spot terrorism, and how to create a "go kit" for home, work and auto. CERT graduates gain a new confidence that they will know what to do when an unexpected event occurs here in Shelby County. After CERT, when disaster strikes, graduates will be able to assist their family, neighbors, and co-workers until professional rescuers arrive on the scene.

Classes are held on two consecutive Saturdays at the Shelby County Complex East, 1075 Mullins Station Road, Memphis, TN 38134, at the Shelby County Office of Preparedness, from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. The next scheduled CERT class is November 2 and 9, 2013. Pre-registration is required. To register for CERT training, please email Eugene Jones, CERT Coordinator, at [Eugene.jones@shelbycountyttn.gov](mailto:Eugene.jones@shelbycountyttn.gov).

**End of Release**