



# EL CERRITO-KENSINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

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[www.el-cerrito.org](http://www.el-cerrito.org)



**DATE:** March 10, 2023

**TO:** Mary Morris-Mayorga: General Manager

**FROM:** Eric Saylor: Fire Chief

**RE:** **Fire Chief's Report for the March 2023 Fire District Board Meeting**

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## Administration

The firefighter's contract between bargaining unit 1230 and the city of El Cerrito reached an agreement on wages and benefits.

Contra Costa County residents are still approved for Individual Assistance from FEMA. Residents can apply for a series of programs to seek assistance for storm-related damages. Residents must apply through FEMA directly.

Residents who have sustained property and business damage from the series of Winter storms can seek assistance directly from FEMA. Residents should apply online at [www.disasterassistance.org](http://www.disasterassistance.org) or call 1-800- 621-3362. Applying does not guarantee that assistance will be awarded.

If you have additional questions, this link will take you to a FEMA flyer that explains all the available programs: [https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-08/fema\\_help-after-disaster\\_english\\_trifold.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-08/fema_help-after-disaster_english_trifold.pdf)

## Training

Firefighters trained on command and control, house fire operations, forcible entry, and special rescues at Camp Herms and the Richmond drill grounds.

## *Citizen Engagement*

ECKFD met with a CERT program manager to start planning our first CERT drill and volunteer academy in 2023. Until St 65 is completed, we plan to meet at El Cerrito city hall for our first orientation. CERT members will learn to assist with setting up an emergency operations center (EOC) and coordination actions with the neighboring CERT team and KARO ECHO.