



# California Specialized Training Institute

## Training and Exercise Programs

### **California's Leader in Professional Emergency Management Training and Exercises**

The California Specialized Training Institute was established in 1971. Over the last 34 years, CSTI has emerged as a leader in emergency management, terrorism/WMD, and hazardous materials training and exercises.

As the Training and Exercise Branch for the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, CSTI:

- Pioneered disaster management and emergency response training in California, which provided the early foundation for the State's current Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- Developed first-of-its-kind training, now in use throughout California, many parts of our nation, and at various international locations.
- Designed a comprehensive training curriculum with nearly 100 current course titles in terrorism awareness, prevention, and response; law enforcement tactics and safety; emergency management; disaster planning, mitigation, response and recovery; crisis communications; and hazardous materials/WMD preparedness and response.
- Employs nationally recognized adjunct instructors, guest speakers, subject matter experts, and curriculum designers to support the full-time faculty and staff in the development and delivery of vital life safety and emergency management training and exercises.
- Convenes a curriculum advisory committee consisting of a wide spectrum of public and private representatives to regularly update its curriculum.
- Trains between 7000 and 9000 emergency management and first responder professionals each year and an additional several thousand professionals through our outreach-training program.
- Provides a statewide training forum and one of the largest professional networks for emergency managers and first responders in California.
- Maintains a steadfast commitment to protect lives through innovative and practical hands-on training and exercises for field emergency response personnel.

### **OES Statewide Exercise Program**

OES/CSTI has one of the longest deployed and most comprehensive all-hazard preparedness training programs in the nation. An essential part of this preparedness mission is the OES Statewide Exercise Program. Key elements and goals of this program include:

- Ongoing Exercise Design Team Training for all California Operational Areas
- Annual State/Regional All-Hazard Multi-Jurisdictional Exercises
- The deployment of nearly 200 tabletop, functional and full-scale exercises in OES training courses annually.
- State Master Exercise Calendar
- State Exercise Training Officer (ETO) Coordination, Oversight, and Review and Adaptation of Federal Standards
- Ongoing Training and Exercise Needs Assessments and Jurisdictional Analysis conducted by OES Regional Coordinators
- After Action Reports/Improvement Plans
- State Agency and Executive Workshops

## **CSTI Training – A Key Role in Managing California’s Disasters**

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Under the authority of California Legislature (Emergency Services Act) and core to the mission of the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services, the California Specialized Training Institute is responsible for providing specialized training to state and local agencies and organizations in their planning and preparation for disasters. Training and exercises are essential components of this preparedness mission.

A coordinated response to disasters and major emergencies is critical to saving lives and protecting property. Through its training programs, CSTI has set the standard for effectively managing and coordinating the response of emergency response personnel throughout California. CSTI’s programs provide an opportunity for all emergency response disciplines – law enforcement, fire service, emergency medical, public health, public works, private industry, and many others – to train and exercise together.

CSTI ensures that its training, including that of its outreach instructors, meets the requirements of the California Government Code (Standardized Emergency Management System), National Response Plan, National Incident Management System, and meets the standards identified by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training, the National Fire Protection Association, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

CSTI has provided essential emergency management, hazardous materials, and anti-terrorism training to a significant number of our public service partners, including:

- The California Highway Patrol
- The California National Guard
- The California Department of Health Services
- The California Emergency Medical Services Authority
- The California Environmental Protection Agency
- The California Department of Transportation
- And a variety of national and international organizations

## **CSTI – A Vital Resource for Local Communities**

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Ultimately, the recipients of CSTI’s training programs are California’s local communities. CSTI’s life safety and emergency management training has a direct impact on the welfare of our families, schools, businesses, and local resources. CSTI has provided specific community focused training including:

- Multi-hazard Emergency Planning for Schools
- Emergency Management Training for School Districts
- Terrorism Awareness Seminars for Universities
- Terrorism Briefings for Community and Business Officials
- Emergency Management Seminars for Local Public Officials
- Emergency Management Training for Business and Industry
- Local Government Emergency Response Workshops
- EOC Workshops for Public Utilities and Water Districts
- Community Emergency Response Team Courses for Trainers
- Emergency Planning for Special Needs Populations

## **CSTI Outreach – Bringing the Training to You**

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Although CSTI offers a variety of core programs at our training headquarters in San Luis Obispo, the majority of CSTI's training is delivered in local communities throughout California.

CSTI administers the Hazardous Materials/WMD Emergency Response Outreach Training Program as identified in the California Code of Regulations. As a critical part of this program, CSTI certifies instructors to train emergency responders and businesses in all levels of hazardous materials response.

Through our Hazardous Materials/WMD Emergency Response Outreach Training Program we have certified over 13,000 courses and 315,000 emergency response personnel since the program's inception in 1989. OES has certified over 3700 outreach instructors. Currently, we support approximately 1700 active outreach instructors and train and certify about 250 new instructors each year.

CSTI also provides Standardized Emergency Management System training programs that are individually tailored to fit specific organizational needs and may address a wide range of emergency management and terrorism and homeland security related issues. Our training staff considers your organization's facilities, plans, and personnel in the design of each custom program.

## **CSTI Instructors – Applying Practical Experience**

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Your working professionals learn from our working professionals. Our instructors and staff, most of whom have extensive public safety and management backgrounds, continue to respond to disasters and major emergencies in California as part of the Office of Emergency Services' emergency management team. CSTI instructors and support staff have served in a variety of assignments, including:

- State Operations Center
- Regional Emergency Operations Centers
- Disaster Assistance Centers
- Mobilization Centers
- Support to Local Emergency Operations Centers and Incident Command Posts
- Executive Duty Officer for After-Hour Emergencies

CSTI staff have served in numerous command and support positions in nearly every major disaster in California in recent times.

## **Need More Information**

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For more information about CSTI's programs and training services, please call: (805) 549-3535 or visit our website at [www.csti.ca.gov](http://www.csti.ca.gov)

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