CERT UNIT 5 – LIGHT SEARCH & RESCUE
HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

Read Unit 5 in the CERT Participants Manual and fill in the blanks below.

CERT MISSION AND TYPES OF DAMAGES
The CERT mission for interior searches changes if:

- Damage is light (superficial cracks or breaks in the wall surface, minor damage to the interior contents)
  o The CERT mission is to locate; and document.
- Damage is moderate (many visible cracks in the wall surface, major damage to interior content, building on its foundation)
  o The CERT mission is to locate; evacuate; warn others; continue sizeup while minimizing the number of rescuers and time spent inside the structure.
- Damage is heavy (partial or total collapse, obvious structural instability, building off its foundation, heavy smoke or fire, hazardous materials inside, gas leaks, rising or moving water)
  o The CERT mission is to secure the building perimeter and warn others of the danger in entering the building.

CERT members are not to enter a building with heavy damage under any circumstances.

SEARCH MARKINGS
Experienced search and rescue personnel use the following system. The same system will be used by CERTs. This will save fellow CERT members and other responders time during the search and continual sizeup of the structure.

1. Upon entering a search area, make a mark next to the door to indicate that you are entering. Do not make the mark on the door or on the wall where the door swings. Make a single slash and write the agency or group ID at the “9 o’clock” position. Then write the date and “time in” at the “12 o’clock” position.

2. Upon exiting the search area, make another slash to form an “X” (the agency or group ID will be in the left quadrant). Enter the search “time out” in the top quadrant.
   - Right quadrant: Enter the and any specific information about hazards.
   - Lower quadrant: Enter information about the “L” represents living survivors, while “D” represents dead victims. The search marking on the front of a structure or building should contain the total number of victims, whereas search markings inside the structure or building will include victim totals for specific search areas. Also indicate.