

# MA AEER Task Force Update

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The Massachusetts Architects & Engineers Emergency Response Task Force (MA AEER TF) is a committee created by SEAMASS, AIA/BSA and BSCE. The committee's mission is to assist the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) with Certified Post Disaster Rapid Building Evaluators should the Agency ever be overwhelmed following an event.

The committee's 9-person Board of Directors consists of 3 representatives from each group. They meet monthly at The Engineering Center on Beacon Hill in Boston, and are administrated by The Engineering Center Education Trust. **Gail Kubik, AIA**, one of the driving forces behind the committee's development, has just concluded her term as Chair. **Jeffrey Struble, PE** representing SEAMASS is now the Chairperson. **David Schnerch, PE, Ph.D** and **Michael Fillion, PE, SECB** also represent SEAMASS as directors while former director **Dave Morand, PE, SECB** continues to participate in meetings on a regular basis as a liaison to SEAMASS.

## Recent Task Force accomplishments and goals:

- The TF is available to organize and teach Cal OES SAP post-disaster building safety training sessions
- The TF has created an active roster of MA volunteer Post-disaster Building Evaluators
- The TF continues to build relationships with MEMA and OPSI

## A brief Summary of Recent Task Force Post-Disaster Cal OES SAP Training Events:

- April 2018 at Northeastern's Kostas Research Center, Burlington, MA
- November 2018 at the ABX conference in Boston
- October 2019 at the Umass Conference Center, Amherst, MA
- February 2020: A Post-Disaster Building Assessment training workshop at the BSA office, in response to the January 2020 earthquakes that devastated Puerto Rico. In this workshop-style training, each participant brought energy to the discussion and a desire to help Puerto Rico communities in need. Now that participants are trained, they're arranging with Jet Blue to obtain free airfare, and AirBnB for complimentary housing, so they can deploy to the island.



## Join the National Post-disaster Building Safety Evaluator Roster:

The latest FEMA P-2005 document ([Post-disaster Building Safety Evaluation Guidance](#)) recommends one national roster. Recently ICC & NCSEA joined forces to create the [Disaster Response Alliance](#) (DRA) with a national digital database of volunteers to assist local, state or federal entities who need skilled, trained and certified building safety professionals in the aftermath of disaster.

In the recent FEMA post-disaster response writing documents, to participate in post-disaster safety evaluations, candidates need to have completed a Second Responder course (Cal OES Safety Assessment Program or ICC "When Disaster Strikes") along with the following online FEMA courses: ICS100,200,700 & 800.

These courses may be accessed and completed for free at <https://training.fema.gov/is/>. To enlist as a volunteer with the DRA roster, visit their [website](#) where you can enter your current training credentials and contact information. Additional training credentials such as the FEMA ICS courses can be added as you acquire them. Being on the national roster enables you to receive deployment notices for all 50 states should you wish to volunteer beyond your own state borders.