



Clallam County Fire District 3

323 N Fifth Ave., Sequim, Washington 98382

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www.ccf3.org

Jeffrey C. Nicholas

Michael Mingee

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Commissioners

Justin Grider, Fire Chief

PRESS RELEASE 4/16/2024

Serve Washington Volunteer Award

On Tuesday, April 16th, 2024, during the Board of Commissioners meeting for Clallam County Fire District 3, Diana Klonts from Serve Washington proudly delivered the prestigious Washington State Volunteer Service Award to Blaine Zechenelly, Charles Meyer, and the Eastern Clallam County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). This award aims to recognize and celebrate the remarkable acts of kindness demonstrated by individuals, families, and service groups in communities throughout Washington.

Nominations for the Washington State Volunteer Service Awards were open to all individuals and service groups engaged in volunteerism, formal or non-formal, within the past year. A panel comprising Serve Washington commissioners and community members meticulously reviewed nominations to select this year's deserving award recipients.

The Board of Commissioners for Clallam County Fire District 3 commends and honors Blaine Zechenelly for his exemplary dedication to volunteerism. Furthermore, the Commissioners congratulate the Peninsula/Coastal award recipients and the Eastern Clallam County CERT Program for their outstanding contributions to the community in the realm of emergency preparedness; they donated over 22,000 hours of service in 2023!

Special gratitude is extended to Mr. Charles Meyer for nominating the Eastern Clallam County CERT Program for this esteemed award. The Board acknowledged the remarkable growth and impact of the Eastern Clallam CERT program since its establishment in 2016. With over 550 members, the program provides vital support to nearly 40,000 residents in preparation for emergencies. Notably, the Eastern Clallam CERT Program played a pivotal role in the COVID-19 vaccination effort, demonstrating exemplary leadership and collaboration in partnership with the City of Sequim, Clallam Fire District 3, and Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe's Health Services.

Serve Washington congratulates all award recipients and expresses gratitude for their selfless contributions, which enrich the lives of Washington residents and strengthen communities statewide.

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