

## **If Structural Damage is.....**

## **Then the CERT Mission is...**

### **Light Damage:**

Superficial or cosmetic damage, broken windows, fallen plaster; primarily damage to contents of structure.

To locate, triage, and prioritize removal of victims to designated treatment areas by the medical operation team.

### **Moderate Damage:**

Questionable structural stability; fractures, tilting, foundation movement and/or foundation displacement.

To locate, stabilize and immediately evacuate victims to a safe area while minimizing the number of rescuers inside the building.

### **Heavy Damage:**

Signs of obvious structural instability; partial or total wall collapse, roof failures.

To secure the building perimeter and control access into the structure by untrained but well-intentioned volunteers.



# Mercalli Earthquake Scale

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>I. Not felt</b>                 | Not felt, even under most circumstances.   |
| <b>II. Scarcely felt</b>           | Vibration is felt only by individual people at rest in houses, especially on upper floors of buildings.  |
| <b>III. Weak</b>                   | The vibration is weak and is felt indoors by a few people. People at rest feel a swaying or light trembling.<br><br>The earthquake is felt indoors by many people, outdoors by very few. A few people are awakened. The level of vibration is not frightening. Windows, doors and dishes rattle. Hanging objects swing.  |
| <b>IV. Largely observed</b>        |  |
| <b>V. Strong</b>                   | The earthquake is felt indoors by most, outdoors by few. Many sleeping people awake. A few run outdoors. Buildings tremble throughout. Hanging objects swing considerably. Dishes and glasses clatter together. The vibration is strong. Top-heavy objects topple over. Doors and windows swing open or shut.<br><br>Felt by most indoors and by many outdoors. Many people in buildings are frightened and run outdoors. Small objects fall. Slight damage to many buildings; for example, fine cracks in plaster and small pieces of plaster fall. |
| <b>VI. Slight damaging</b>         |  |
| <b>VII. Damaging</b>               | Most people are frightened and run outdoors. Furniture is shifted and many objects fall from shelves. Many buildings suffer moderate damage: small cracks in walls; partial collapse of chimneys.<br><br>Furniture may be overturned. Many buildings suffer damage: chimneys fall; large cracks appear in walls and a few buildings many partially collapse.   |
| <b>VIII. Heavily damaging</b>      |  |
| <b>IX. Destructive</b>             | Monuments and columns fall or are twisted. Many buildings partially collapse and a few collapse completely.  |
| <b>X. Very destructive</b>         | Many buildings collapse.   |
| <b>XI. Devastating</b>             | Most buildings collapse.   |
| <b>XII. Completely devastating</b> | Practically all structures above and below ground are heavily damaged or destroyed.  |