

**BOARD REPORT  
OUTREACH COMMITTEE  
Northeast Region Board Meeting  
October 2023**



**DATE:** October 21, 2023  
**TO:** Northeast Region Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Steve VanDyke, Board Liaison

**SUBJECT:** Report of Certification Committee

**A. Highlights**

1. Planning is underway for a CDT class starting mid-February and running into April.

**B. The Report**

1. Committee Members:

Steve VanDyke, Worcester  
Ruma Som, Metro NY  
Kevin O’Beirne, Buffalo  
Tom Scarlata, Boston

2. Committee Goals:

- a. Organize and manage another virtual CDT preparation class for the benefit of the Region, using last year’s lessons learned to improve this year’s offering.

3. Committee Activity:

- a. Confirmed that the following faculty will teach another class in 2023:

- 1.) Tom Scarlata, Boston
- 2.) Kevin O’Beirne, Buffalo
- 3.) Bill DuBoise, Metro
- 4.) Steve Laurente, Metro
- 5.) Ruma Som, Metro

- b. Determined that the recordings of the Zoom classes from the 2022 test are really not suitable for video editing, so, faculty will be re-recording their sessions with no audience to produce a cleaner starting point.

- c. Researched multiple video editing people through the website fiverr.com with appropriate skills.

4. Status of Current Programs

- a. The Region will be able to offer another prep class for the Spring 2024 exam. This year, the plan is to prepare pre-recorded videos of each session to allow candidates to watch them in advance of the class, so that the class itself can be more of a discussion and Q&A session.

## 5. Problem areas

- a. AIA approval of the sessions for CEUs seems to still be challenging. We only have 5 of the sessions approved by AIA. By comparison, Portland offers 18 CEUs all qualifying for HSW. Since the sessions are the same each year, this seems like something we'd need AIA approval for just one time, and then we'd be able to offer that each time.
- b. Determining the success rate of the classes has been impossible, as the Institute will not tell me how many candidates tested. The names of those who passed are published by the Institute, but without knowing how many did not pass, we cannot tell the passing % and we don't really know if the classes are working. I was clear in my request to the Institute that I don't need the names of people who didn't pass – just the number of people in our group who took the test, but they will not cooperate with me. From polling the candidates, I know that:
  - 1.) 20 passed
  - 2.) 4 failed (at least)
  - 3.) 4 didn't test
  - 4.) 30 didn't answer me at all.

## 6. Recommendation for goals for next FY:

- a. Consider a replacement for me as Chair of Certification Committee. I would be happy to train a replacement on the steps and activities the position entails. I'm not quitting, but would like a new responsibility in the future.

### **Respectfully submitted;**

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**END OF REPORT**

Cc: Region Secretary