## Navigating the Phases of Crises

**CAPIO**June 24, 2020



### Today's Agenda

- Trifecta+ of Crises
- 2 4 Crisis Essentials
- 3 Case Studies
- 4 Q&A

#### Communicating Clearly in a Crisis





#### **Trifecta of Crises**



#### So...What Else Can Go Wrong?

- Pandemic
- Economic collapse
- Community unrest and protests
- And ...



#### They Keep On Coming

- Natural disasters
- CyberattackSee Western City article
- Electeds may go rogueSee "guidelines" handout
- Elections and usual wackiness



# #1: Emergency Communications Plan



#### Must Have an EPI Plan

- Plan is most important tool
- Needs to be done during downtime whenever that may be
- See CAPIO website for:

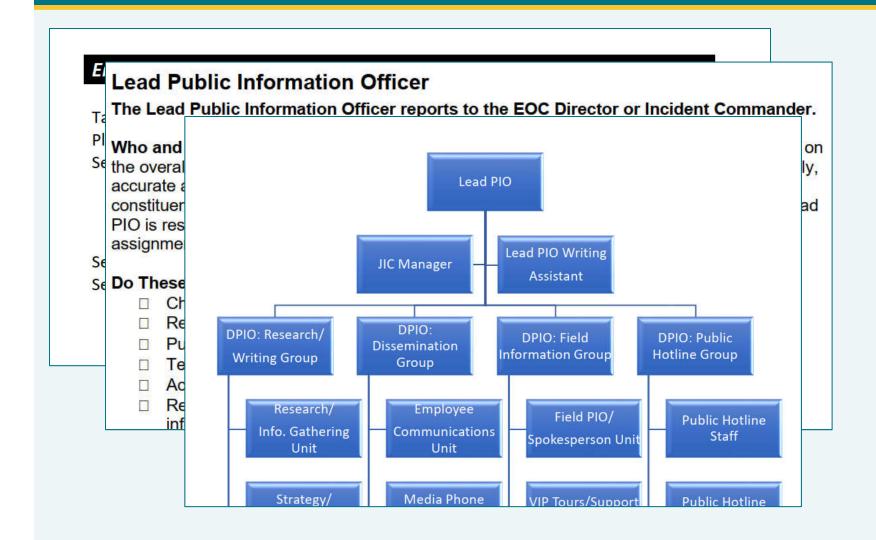
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Lead PIO checklist

PIO Team, JIC org charts - 3 levels



#### **Handouts**





#### Regardless of Size ...

- Your PIO Team/JIC systems are same
- Scale up or down

Create team

Create content

Create/use dissemination tools

Disseminate - use a checklist

Report to management, repeat



# #2: You're Doing 3x<sup>+</sup> as Much as Usual



#### Create a Team & Keep Adding

- You can't have enough resources
- Overcommunicate
- How to staff up when no mutual aid
- Internal and external

How to create in-house team

Now is time to meet area PIOs



### Scale, Efficiency, Resources

- Multiple spokespersons
- Relationships matter

HR: hire part-time help

IT: adopt new tech (WhatsApp, etc.)

Finance: convey budget info

Attorney, Schools, Chamber...



#### **Always Work on Systems**

During crises, you can't:

Redesign website

Create graphic design team

Easily create video storytelling unit

Create resident newsletter

Build key contacts database



# #3: Messaging Even More Important in Crisis



#### Key Messages

- What you want viewers to know, think or do
- Provide context
- Not facts
- Creation becomes easier
- Entire agency all on same page

#### Messaging Example: MPD





## #4: Please Use Fewer Words



#### Less Reading, More Visuals

Don't fight limited attention spans

Fewer words

More graphics

More photos

More video

Use apps like Canva



#### **Examples of Graphics**





#### **Case Studies**



#### South Pasadena PD Shooting

- Two years ago: PD called to home
- Woman with a gun, mental health
- Celebrity
- Outside investigation
- How to release results

Key principle: transparency



#### Video Release Timeline

- Determine strategy
- Prepare messages, scripts, train
   See message platform
   Prepare video for web distribution
- Inform all audiences in right order
   Electeds, PD staff, agency staff, public info channels, media



## Release of PD Shooting Video





#### Electeds: Staying in Lane





#### Response: More than Facts





## City Staff Holiday Party





### LAFD PIO Skirts Mayor Qs





#### Your Role as Counselor





With public trust all things are possible. Without it, nothing is possible."

Abraham Lincoln