



Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association

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MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR RELEASE ON JULY 21, 2020

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Los Angeles Area Fire Departments Participate in a COVID-19 Safety Stand Down

(LOS ANGELES, CA) Due to the recent increase in infection rates among Los Angeles region fire department personnel, the 30 fire chiefs, represented by the Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association, agreed to participate in a COVID-19 Safety Stand Down. The COVID-19 Safety Stand Down will take place from Monday, July 20 through Friday, July 24, 2020. This Safety Stand Down will not impact fire department services. The intent and action items of the COVID-19 Safety Stand Down are below.

COVID-19 Safety Stand Down

The COVID-19 pandemic is proving to be a challenge of historic proportions and has already taken a significant toll on our communities. Firefighters and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel have not been immune to the impact of COVID-19. Thousands of firefighters and EMS personnel across the country have contracted this deadly virus, and, sadly, dozens have lost their lives. Although some progress is being made, the spread of COVID-19 appears to be picking up speed, including the spread among our region's fire and EMS personnel.

It is for this reason that the region's fire chiefs have agreed to conduct a COVID-19 Safety Stand Down. **The objective is to emphasize the severe risks that COVID-19 represents to our team members and our communities, and strongly emphasize the vital importance of the proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE), hand-washing, and physical distancing.** It is also important that our team members set an example and conduct themselves in a manner that will protect our communities.

As a part of this Safety Stand Down, all Los Angeles area fire department personnel are requested to participate in the following activities during the week of July 20 through 24, 2020:

- View the COVID Safety Stand Down video, which can be accessed at <https://vimeo.com/438791580/03eb14f2eb>
- View training documents and discuss the COVID-19 Safety Stand Down Checklist, which can be accessed at <https://laafca.org/COVID19SAFETYStandDown/>

It is the sincere hope of LAAFCFA that we contribute to flattening the curve among our first responders and beyond and continue to serve our communities in this time of need.