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Resilience Report

Brief insights and the latest innovations in emergency management and health security.

This year has started off with rocky with a violent mob breaching the U.S. Capitol Building and COVID-19 rates rising higher than ever. A unifying win is now more important than ever. Thankfully, we are beginning to see light at the end of the long tunnel as vaccines reach more people and many look towards next week with hope of overcoming divides. This week on Resilience Report we choose to be optimistic that our democratic process will continue smoothly while also taking the threat of violence across the nation seriously by focusing on ways to strengthen security within response plans.



Inauguration Preparation.

The [FBI warns of armed protests](#) in all 50 states from 1/16/21 until at least 1/20/21 as the country prepares for President Joe Biden's inauguration.

Investment in Equity and Resilience.

Last year's disasters resulted in nearly [\\$210 billion](#) in damage worldwide. With the growing cost of climate change, [new investments](#) (\$100 million!) seek to address its inequitable impacts and promote racial equity and environmental resilience.

Continued Wave of COVID-19.

Staggering numbers of COVID-19 deaths [continue in California](#) making [tracking hospital bed](#) occupancy even more important.

Diverse Distribution Plans.

The COVID-19 vaccine is making its way from [Disneyland](#) to [Dodgers Stadium](#) and all the way to [front doors](#) as distribution efforts continue.

SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT:



SAFETY PLANNING

Every week, we'll dedicate space for a hot topic that we think is especially important for emergency managers to read. Last week's events at the U.S. Capitol Building caused us to stop and reflect, both on the implications for the nation but also about the importance of prioritizing physical and emotional safety when planning for the unthinkable.

There are a lot of good reads and useful resources that emergency planners can tap into to support this prioritization.

- Reviewing other threat assessments can be a good way to understand the context of the threats faced by one's own agency. The [Homeland Threat Assessment](#) from DHS is a good place to start.
- Checklists can be immensely helpful for assessing safety and security and schools have a lot of good examples of these. The Texas School Safety Center has an array of useful [resources for conducting safety and security audits](#).
- There are often free psychological support resources that anyone, including emergency response professionals, can take advantage of. The American Psychological Association has a [list of psychological scientists](#) who are available to discuss trauma, stress, and resilience in the wake of the riot at the Capitol.

Safe Response Planning

The following are some specific strategies our team came up with for building in safety and security to response planning that complement the above resources.

- **Understand the threat:** Gather and analyze intelligence from open sources, partner agencies/organizations, and community members.
- **Know the gaps:** Consider inviting external stakeholders to observe your site for any potential safety/security gaps (e.g. local PD, SMEs, citizen corps, etc.).
- **Maintain situational awareness:** Especially during the event, having communication channels, partners, resources, and standard operating procedures in place to maintain a handle on what is going on and communicate adjustments as needed.
- **Care for your people:** Supporting the mental wellbeing of responders is so important, both in steady-state operations and in the wake of an emergency. Acknowledge and address the potential for emotional impacts on staff and the community you serve.

Experienced CONSTANT staff have expertise in counterterrorism, healthcare security, and emergency management. Shoot us an [email](#) for more information.

FUN THINGS

Creating a Beloved Community.

Monday (1/18/21) we honor Martin Luther King Jr. by honoring his life and legacy. Celebrate with [virtual events nationally](#) and in the [San Francisco Bay Area](#).



Science's Newest Additions.

Did you know that 100s of new species were named in 2020? A curated list of [the top 15](#) includes mammals, insects, and fungi! If you're a Harry Potter fan you'll especially love Salazar's pit viper.

Celebrating Vaccination Successes.

Even with populations in extremely remote locations, the risk of vaccines freezing in needles, and bumpy rides on snowmobiles, [Alaskan health officials and tribal leaders](#) are positive about the COVID-19 vaccination distribution.

We're Here to Support You

If you need help with vaccine planning, COVID-19 AARs, mass fatality planning, EOC surge staff, or anything in between, shoot us an email at jason@constantassociates.com. We are here to help.



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