



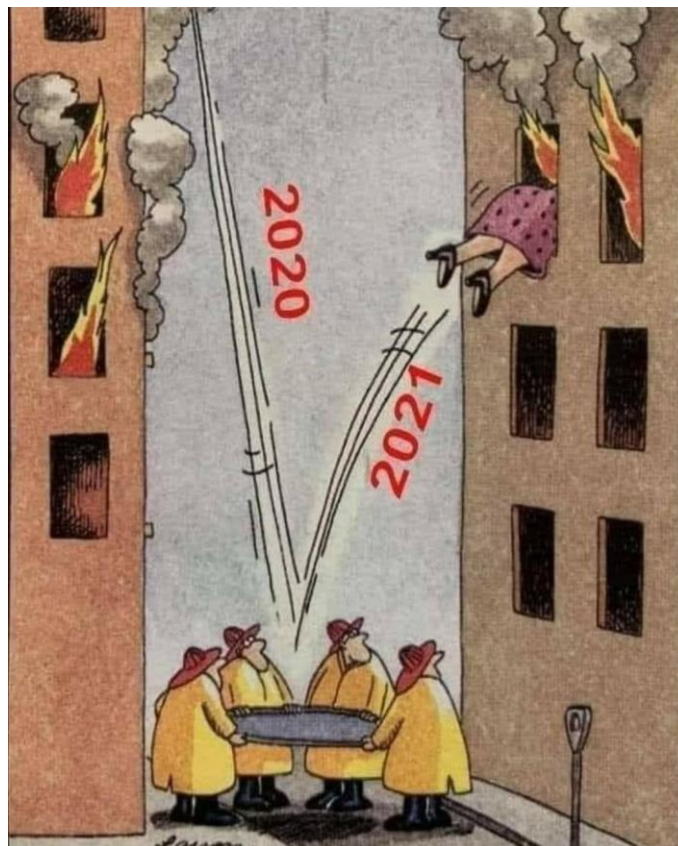
THE REVIEW

Central Arizona Fire and Medical - 8603 E. Eastridge Dr., Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 – Jan 8, 2021

This Edition:

The Chief's Desk	Page 2
A new threat: Fire chiefs emphasize collaboration to manage civil unrest	Page 3
For the Sake of Argument	Page 3
December Call Statistics	Page 6

"So let us begin anew – remembering on both sides that civility is not a sign of weakness, and sincerity is always subject to proof. Let us never negotiate out of fear, but let us never fear to negotiate. Let both sides explore what problems unite us instead of belaboring those problems which divide us." John F. Kennedy



The Chief's Desk

Happy second Friday of 2021! ~~I trust the first seven days have not been a complete disaster for anyone — so we'll take that for the win ☺~~ Now, we tackle the second full week of the year with the same positive outlook we had as we kicked 2020 to the curb. My apologies, I write this earlier in the week these days, due to the podcast, and had not counted on some of the events that have since unfolded in our country. Maybe next week will be without disaster... Keep your head up and a positive attitude ☺

The vaccine is out and wow are we being bombarded with a ton of information! Some accurate, and some not so accurate. Isn't it interesting how we use numbers in a way that illustrates the picture we want to paint, e.g. fear, or safety? I'm not being negative, just pointing out a fact. For example, the COVID-19 survivability rate is not scary if you look at the survival percentage. To that end, numbers of cases and deaths are reported using the "actual" number because that can be scary, if that's all you are considering. However, the side effects of a vaccine are likely presented as a percentage because the percentage looks really good, and we know that using actual numbers can be scary. Since the desire is to have people take the vaccine, we cannot use any numbers that might cause fear. It is truly a tangled web we weave. This is also why our law enforcement partners are far better at obtaining grants than fire departments, i.e. they know how to play the numbers game ☺

I am not here to advocate for or against the vaccine, however I do intend to offer factual information that I hope will provide some clarity, and maybe help you make your decision. Firstly, I think it is important you understand the definition of vaccine. The Oxford definition of vaccine is *a substance used to stimulate the production of antibodies and provide immunity against one or several diseases, prepared from the causative agent of a disease, its products, or a synthetic substitute, treated to act as an antigen without inducing the disease.*

As we know, there are a lot of vaccines available, measles, polio, mumps, smallpox, diphtheria, for example. The flu shot is actually the influenza vaccine. What should be clear is that some vaccines can eradicate a disease or virus while others do not. For example, the measles has or had been eliminated through vaccinations. Although the World Health Organization declared the measles eliminated in the U.S. in 2000, it is reemerging as a result of international travelers and the anti-vaccination movement in our country according to the CDC.

The influenza vaccine is slightly different in that it does not eradicate the influenza virus. Influenza includes four different types, although two, Type A and Type B, are the most common in humans. According to the CDC, as much as it pains me to use anything from that group, influenza viruses mutate each year in a couple of different ways. How they shift determines whether or not your immune system will recognize and fight the virus. To that end, they create an influenza vaccine twice a year in hopes that they develop the correct formula to address the new strain. **Cont. Page 4**

Upcoming Events:

Jan 11: Policy Meeting, Pro Dev Program, Pick Jen up at airport
Jan 12: Engine 61 Push-in, ELP Seminar, Meet Chief Karrer
Zoom
Jan 13: Record Podcast, DHS
Zoom
Jan 7: AFSI

Board Meetings:

Jan 22 Administration

CAFMA – 1700-1830

A new threat: Fire chiefs emphasize collaboration to manage civil unrest

By: Janelle Foskett

Even as many fire service leaders were still working round-the-clock to adjust PPE protocols, develop contingency staffing plans and find creative ways to keep members safe from COVID-19, a new crisis emerged in many cities.

The death George Floyd while in police custody sparked peaceful protests in some areas and civil unrest in others. Firefighters were often on the front lines of these demonstrations, caught in the middle between police and protesters, and in some cases serving as targets themselves.

Committed to advancing fire service safety and resilience, four chief officers are sharing their lessons learned from leading a department through the civil unrest of 2020. Share these lessons with your company and training officers to ensure the messages reach the members on the front lines.

FIRE CHIEF RALPH TERRAZAS, LAFD: “ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE SITUATIONAL AWARENESS INFORMATION SYSTEM”

The City of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles City Fire Department (LAFD) have a long history of responding to civil unrest and protests that date back to the Watts riots in 1965, the LA riots in 1992 and, most recently, the civil unrest in May 2020, when George Floyd’s death caught the world’s attention and sparked protests in our city and across our country.

firerescue1.com

For the Sake of Argument

By: Nora Delaney

“Be civil.”

“Show some civility.”

These appeals are familiar to many of us. From Twitter to the The New York Times, the word “civility” has made a conspicuous appearance in recent years, becoming something of a lightning rod. A New York Times Magazine piece, “When is ‘civility’ a duty, and when is it a trap?” ran in the fall, a month after an opinion piece in the Washington Post titled, “The left and the right cry out for civility, but maybe that’s asking for too much.” Outside the United States as well, from Brazil to Britain, public discourse has become more rancorous.

But what is “civil discourse” anyway?

With a number of different meanings, "civility" can be a tricky word to pin down. And calls for civility in politics have been met by fears that these appeals give harmful views a free pass. April Holm, an associate professor of history at the University of Mississippi, wrote in the Washington Post recently, “Calls for moderation and civility, combined with denouncing both sides as too extreme, are common in moments of moral and political crisis. But they are not apolitical. They take the focus away from injustice and put it instead on the behavior of those protesting it. This allows critics to adopt a moral high ground as the civil, reasonable ones without ever publicly taking sides in the debate.”

However, detached civility-as-politeness is not the same thing as the civility that drives principled debate and civil discourse. “It’s important to distinguish between two senses of civility,” Archon Fung, the Winthrop Laflin McCormack Professor of Citizenship and Self-Government, has written. “The first is a superficial kind of civility—being nice, refraining from insults or ad-hominem kinds of argument. The second is a deeper, more important (and older, for what that’s worth) sense of civility that is about behaving in ways that are necessary for cooperative projects such as schools and democratic societies to work well. This deeper sense of civility comes from the Latin *civitas*—relating to citizens. Civility in this sense is behavior that is important for good citizenship.”

hks.harvard.edu

Chief’s Desk Continued

It appears that scientists have not been able to eradicate influenza because it has the ability to mutate. At best, they have been able to reduce the virus’ impact. That said, we have learned to live with it, and have both the flu shot, as well as medications, to treat the symptoms. Still, the flu can be deadly and in those years they are not able to create the correct vaccine, we typically realize a significant number of deaths, and our healthcare system ends up overwhelmed.

What about the COVID-19 vaccine? It was developed in record time and pushed to market. As with any vaccine, there can be side effects that vary from mild, to moderate, to severe. Overall, from what I’ve seen/heard, the vaccine does appear safe. However, there are those with preexisting conditions for whom the vaccine may not be recommended. Folks who have taken the Pfizer vaccine seem to have a few more side effects than those who have received the Moderna vaccine. The vaccine currently being offered in our area is the Moderna.

Due the fact that the vaccine was developed and pushed to market so rapidly, there is not enough data to indicate whether the vaccine will eradicate COVID, or if they will need to develop annual COVID vaccines. We have heard that new strains of COVID have been detected as the virus mutates. Based on available information, it appears COVID-19 is another Coronavirus for which we will need to strengthen our immune systems as it will not be eliminated through a vaccination process. Over time, our immune systems will grow stronger and better able to fight the virus. Some may need the COVID shot/s to aid their immune systems, others may develop an ability to fight the virus without receiving the shot/s.

Unfortunately, I have seen some folks posting information comparing the COVID vaccine to the measles or polio vaccines. Posting this type of comparison is misleading and irresponsible. The other vaccines were developed over a period of years and were very successful in eliminating the diseases. There are seven different types of Coronaviruses of which COVID-19 is one. The first human Coronavirus was detected in 1960. It is currently 2021 and no vaccines have been developed to eliminate any of the other six types of Coronavirus – at least from what I could tell on the CDC’s web-site. To that end, it does not seem plausible that they have developed one to eliminate the newest version of the virus over the last nine months. Not impossible, but not likely, especially given the medical community is not sure if receiving the vaccine will prevent you from contracting COVID.

Deciding whether or not to take the COVID-19 vaccine is and should remain a personal medical decision. The drugs appear safe overall, and have proven effective over the short term in human trials. At this point, we are being told that even with the vaccine we will all need to continue “masking up and social distancing.” So, taking the vaccine does not, at least in some minds, change the “recommendation” to wear a mask. You decide how you feel about the efficacy of masks and mass mask mandates. That said, I would think that if we had an effective vaccine, we should start lifting some of these mandates, but that’s just me.

In my opinion, taking the vaccine is not symbolic of leadership, it is a personal medical decision. I do not believe that taking the vaccine is some sort of grand statement, nor do I believe not taking the vaccine is a grand statement. You each need to do your own research, speak to your health provider, and make your choice. As an aside, if you do take the vaccine, it’s not necessary to post it on social media. The virtue signaling/shaming this year is out of hand...

Based on reports that the COVID-19 virus has mutated into a different strain of itself, it does not seem plausible that we will eradicate it from the United States or the planet. To that end, it has been my belief since the beginning, and I hold that same belief today – we need to learn how to live with it. Masks are not the answer, social distancing forever is not the answer, nor is shuttering businesses, killing the economy, or tanking our educational system. The vaccine appears to be a good step in helping to develop a level of herd immunity, along with the hundreds of thousands of people who have recovered from the virus. Let’s be clear, herd immunity does not mean the virus is no longer a factor. All it means is that our ability to fight the virus is improved which will lead to improved outcomes. Additionally, our healthcare system is learning more about the virus so they have a much improved approach to treatment.

I am not trying to advocate for or against the vaccine. Personally, I think you need to have the information, weigh your options, and decide. As I said earlier, there are some trying to compare the COVID vaccine to those that have successfully eliminated other diseases or viruses. That is misleading at best. Additionally, there is some messaging that states taking the vaccine “is for others, not just for you.” I am not in agreement with that marketing strategy/narrative. The medical decisions you make regarding your health are about you and your family. So, educate yourself and make an informed decision. For CAFMA folks reading this, you can coordinate your vaccination with Chief Niemynski or Engineer Poliakon. They did send an email with the necessary information.

December and End of Year Call Stats

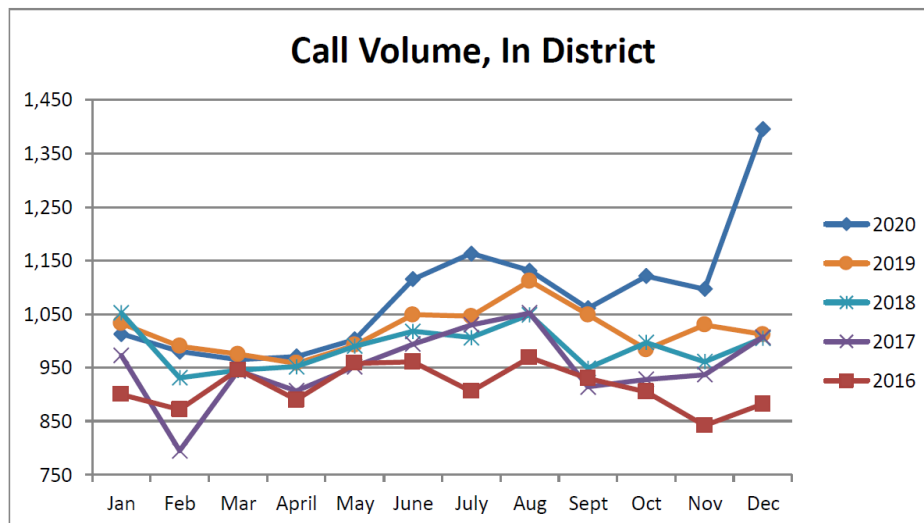
By: GIS/Statistician Michael Freeman

CALL VOLUME HISTORY (IN-DISTRICT INCIDENTS; INCLUDING AID-RECEIVED)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020
Jan	900	973	1,052	1,033	1,013	1,099
Feb	872	795	931	990	980	1,073
Mar	946	944	945	975	965	1,058
April	890	907	952	958	971	1,060
May	958	952	990	992	1,003	1,107
June	961	994	1,018	1,049	1,115	1,208
July	906	1,030	1,006	1,046	1,163	1,282
Aug	969	1,052	1,049	1,112	1,131	1,239
Sept	930	914	949	1,049	1,061	1,163
Oct	905	928	997	984	1,121	1,246
Nov	842	937	961	1,030	1,097	1,206
Dec	882	1,007	1,005	1,012	1,396	1,529
AVG	913	953	988	1,019	1,085	1,189
TOTAL	10,961	11,433	11,855	12,230	13,016	14,270

INCIDENT RESPONSES BY CAFMA

(INCIDENTS IN-DISTRICT, INCLUDING AID GIVEN & OUT-OF-DISTRICT)





December Response Report - 2020

Land Area: 369 sq. miles Population: ≈100,000 Fire Stations: 10 Full-Staffed

Responses in District

TOTAL FIRE INCIDENTS	15
STRUCTURE FIRE	2
STRUCTURE FIRE; CONFINED	2
MOBILE HOME/PORTABLE BLDG	0
VEHICLE FIRE	4
BRUSH/GRASS/WILDLAND FIRE	4
OTHER/TRASH FIRE	3

Fire is 1.08% of call volume

TOTAL RESCUE & EMS	904
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EMS is 64.76% of call volume

OVERPRESSURE / OVERHEAT	0
HAZARDOUS CONDITION	12
SERVICE CALL	263
GOOD INTENT	156
FALSE ALARM/OTHER	46

Other is 34.17% of call volume

TOTAL INCIDENTS IN DISTRICT	1,396
INCIDENT RESPONSES BY CAFMA	1,529

Residential Fire Loss	\$506,800
Commercial Fire Loss	\$0
Vehicle Fire Loss	\$15,600

Calls in Town of Chino Valley	216
Calls in Town of Prescott Valley	724
Calls in Town of Dewey-Humboldt	56
Calls in District, Unincorporated Areas	400
Calls Out of District	9

Average total # of calls per day	45.03
Average fire calls per day	0.48
Average EMS calls per day	29.16
Average all other calls per day	15.39

Aid Given to Prescott	159
Aid Received from Prescott	85
Mutual Aid Given	1
Mutual Aid Received	0

Unit Responses

	In District	Total
E50	150	162
E51	51	222
E53	210	214
E540	35	37
E54	181	185
E57	54	54
E58	220	220
E59	171	176
E61	134	135
E62	148	154
E63	52	56
T50	7	7
B3	51	53
B6	27	29

Call Volume at PRCC

	MONTH	YTD
PFD	889	9,255
CAFMA	1,396	13,016
GCFD	7	113
OD	6	90
WKFD	1	45

Top 5 Call Types

816	EMS
139	Assist Invalid
90	Cancelled en Route
65	Public Service
36	No Incident Found on Arrival

Move Ups by Station

50: 27	57: 6
51: 54	61: 7
53: 7	62: 10
54: 0	63: 33
58: 1	540: 1
59: 6	TOTAL: 152