

FIRE CHIEF'S MESSAGE

MAY 2021

May has proven to be a busy month for us. In fact, this year has already been nonstop since the very start.

Much of what has kept us occupied is focusing on our mission of providing care and protection for the residents in our communities.

Busy is the nature of what we do. Still, I wanted to take the time and opportunity to make sure we show our appreciation for all our emergency medical service providers.



Taken at the Wildfire Preparedness News Conference on Gillette Ranch in Malibu on May 7, 2021.

Every year in May, we celebrate International Firefighters' Day, National Nurses Week and National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week which each deserve our proper acknowledgment and recognition.

With more than 85% of our 9-1-1 calls related to emergency medical services, our first responders and healthcare practitioners play a critical and vital role in completing our mission every day when it comes to protecting the lives of those in our care.

International Firefighters' Day (May 4)



Happy International Firefighters' Day
Thank you, firefighters, for being there for us in all ways – always!



On May 4th, firefighters all over the world were recognized for their hard work and diligence in providing essential care and protection for all those in the communities they serve.

As an all-hazard fire agency, I am proud of all our first responders who courageously answer each call – and do so with technical skill and know-how, resourcefulness, and professionalism.

This year, our team members have tirelessly worked through the pandemic while also battling the North, Pine, and Palisades Fires.

We appreciate you and your supportive families not only on this specially designated day – but every day!

National Nurses Week (May 6-12)

Celebrated every year from May 6-12, National Nurses Week honors nurses everywhere for their selfless dedication in caring for others, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. For us, nurses lend their valuable skills and talent in providing thoughtful and meaningful care.

While many only associate our agency with firefighters and lifeguards, they are unaware of our highly trained and skilled corps of nurses who work alongside our sworn team members.

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Celebrating National Nurses Week
We appreciate our exceptional nurses who provide essential care!



Nurses have been instrumental during this pandemic as we battled COVID-19 from all sides – testing patients for the virus and then vaccinating them against it.

The Executive Team and I appreciate our frontline nurses and the significant contributions they have made and continue to make every day, so we may provide the highest level of professional care to our patients.

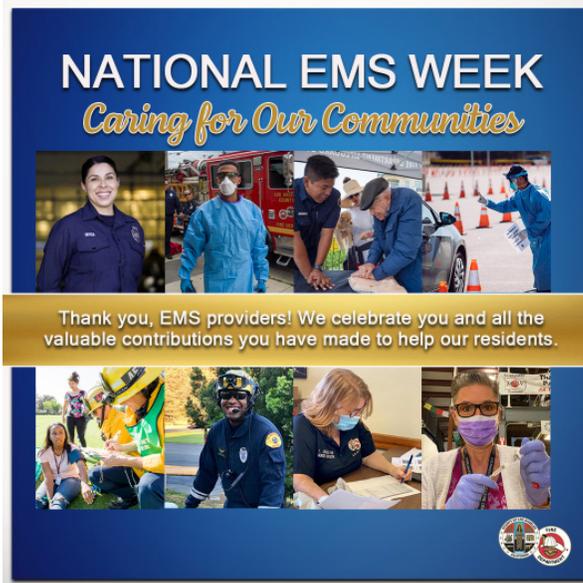
National EMS Week (May 16-22)

During this year's National EMS Week (May 16-22), EMS providers everywhere were recognized for their dedicated service and important contributions in safeguarding the health, safety, and well-being of their communities.

This annual week-long recognition acknowledges the hard work and value of first responders who provide essential service as community helpers and public protectors.

We must remember EMS providers are not just reactive by arriving at the scene to help a patient, but they are also proactive by educating residents about preventative self-care and life-saving campaigns, such as Sidewalk CPR and Stop the Bleed.

Thank you, EMS providers, for all you do!



Sirens of Silence Lifeguard Tower Work of Art



With the support and partnership of Fourth District Supervisor Janice Hahn, the Department of Beaches and Harbors, and the Los Angeles County Fire Foundation, a lifeguard tower on Mother's Beach in Marina Del Rey was specially painted into a temporary work of art by Ocean Lifeguard Scott Snyder who lent his time and talent to this creative endeavor.

The mural recognizes the launch of the *Sirens of Silence* program while celebrating neurodiversity and embracing all abilities as it exudes joy, love, and kindness through a flurry of colorful hearts.

In April, we launched the *Sirens of Silence* program that raises awareness and promotes acceptance of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and other special needs by providing education, information, and training to our first responders.

I encourage everyone to pay a visit and see what the power of caring, community, and teamwork can do. This tower exemplifies what we can accomplish when we work together with our communities and their health and well-being in mind.

