CHIEF'S BRIEF



Laguna Niguel Police Services

Hello Laguna Niguel,

I come to you today with another Monthly Message to provide valuable insights into proactive safety measures and community services, ensuring you and your loved ones remain well-informed and safe.

September is National Preparedness Month, an annual campaign to remind us all of the importance of being ready for emergencies and disasters. The recent local wildfires have served as a stark reminder that emergencies can occur at any time, reinforcing the need to stay prepared year-round. This year's theme, "Start a Conversation," emphasizes the importance of discussing emergency preparedness with your family today so that you can take action and be ready should you be faced with an emergency.

Talking about potential emergencies is only the first step – the real key is to make a plan. In the event of a disaster, your family may not be together, so it's crucial to understand the types of disasters that could affect our area, how to contact each other, and where to meet if you're separated. Choose a meeting place that's easy to find and familiar to everyone. Additionally, be sure to tailor your plans and supplies to your family's specific needs and responsibilities. Finally, practicing your plan with your household is just as important as making it, ensuring that everyone knows what to do if and when you are faced with an emergency.

To enhance your emergency preparedness even further, I strongly encourage all residents and businesses to sign up for local emergency notification systems. Both the Nixle and AlertOC emergency notification systems provide real-time critical alerts straight to your phone and/or email. You can register for Nixle by texting '92677' to 888-777, and visit <u>alertoc.gov</u> to sign up or verify your information for AlertOC.

Additionally, following the City of Laguna Niguel, Laguna Niguel Police Services, the Orange County Fire Authority, and the Orange County Sheriff's Department on social media will help to ensure that you receive timely updates and important information before, during, and after an emergency.

To close, I want to assure you that my team and I remain committed to working closely with our community to ensure the safety and security of all residents.

Thank you for your continued partnership and always remember - stay safe, Laguna Niguel.

Captain Isaac Flores, Chief of Laguna Niguel Police Services