



CalRMA Vision 2023 Annual Conference

Fernando Florez, AC
Emergency Operations Section

11/09/22

Emergency Operations Section

- ❖ 1 of the 4 Sections in HHMD
- ❖ 3 SHMS
- ❖ 18 HMS II responders



Emergency Operations Section

- ❖ 3 On-call Teams 24/7.
- ❖ Primary / Assistant
- ❖ East, West, Rover



EOS Staff



Response Vehicles



Response Vehicles





Response Vehicles









HH 311

HEALTH HAZ MAT

DIVISION

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
FIRE DEPT.**

F2944

CA EXEMPT

1567011

HH311

F2944

CA EXEMPT

1567011

ION

Roles / Duties

- ❖ Technical Reference
- ❖ Identification of chemicals
- ❖ Assess extent of contamination
- ❖ Notifications



Roles / Duties

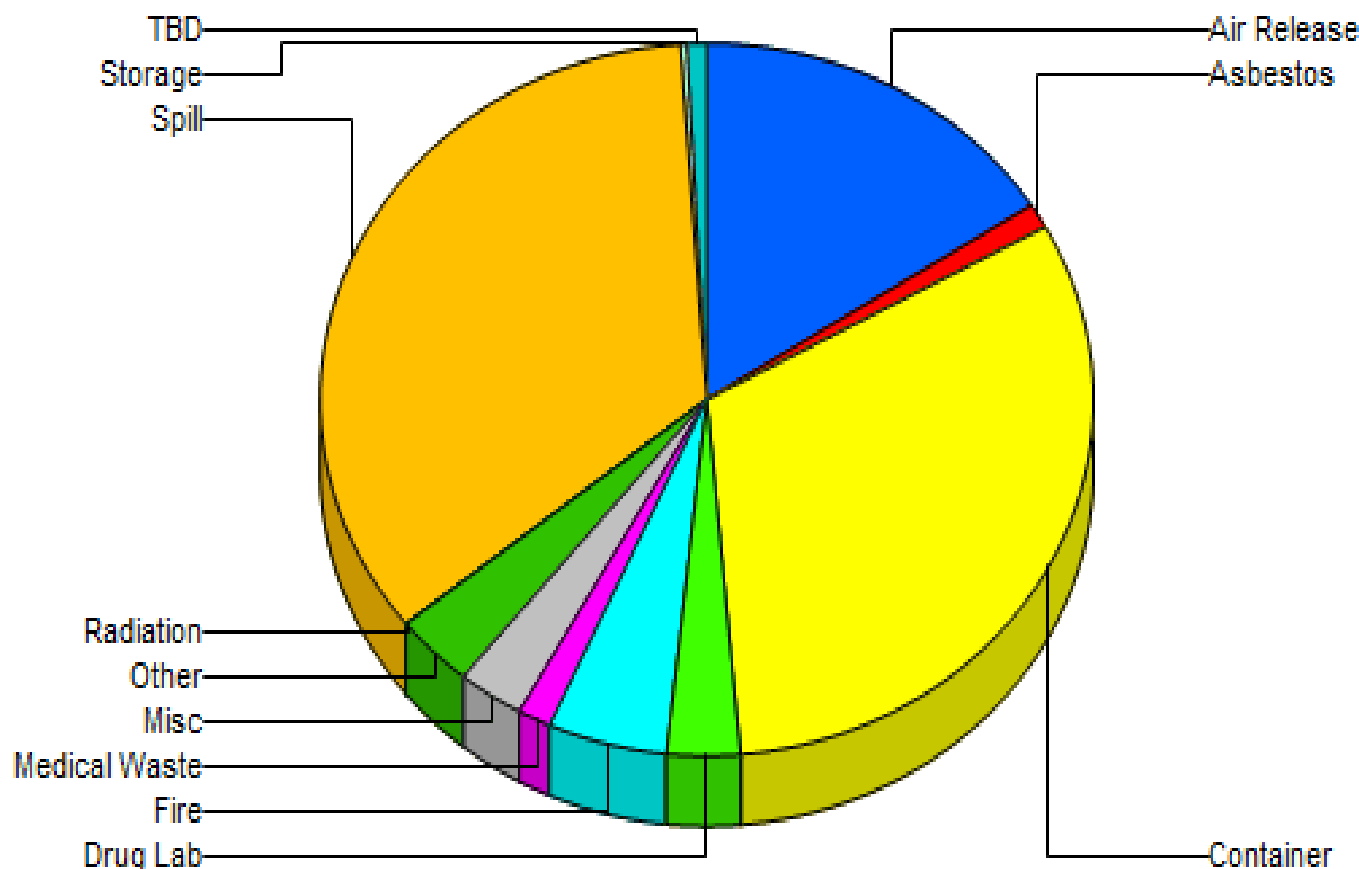
- ❖ Identification of RP
- ❖ Obtain funding for clean-up
- ❖ Coordinate with agencies, RP's, rep's, contractors.



EOS Responses Per Year

- ❖ Year 2018: 1339 responses.
- ❖ Year 2019: 1314 responses
- ❖ Year 2020: 1424 responses
- ❖ Year 2021 1503 responses
- ❖ Year 2022 to date 1079 responses

EOS Responses – Jan – Nov 2022



■	Air Release	170	15.8%
■	Asbestos	13	1.2%
■	Container	341	31.6%
■	Drug Lab	33	3.1%
■	Fire	53	4.9%
■	Medical Waste	15	1.4%
■	Misc	30	2.8%
■	Other	36	3.3%
■	Radiation	1	0.1%
■	Spill	376	34.8%
■	Storage	3	0.3%
■	TBD	8	0.7%
Total:		1079	100.0%

Covid-19

- ❖ Early 2020
 - ✓ Illegal Dumpings
 - ✓ Abandonments
 - ✓ Improper Storage of Covid products

Illegal Dumpings



Illegal Dumpings



Illegal Dumpings



Illegal Dumpings



Abandonments



Abandonments



Abandonments



Covid-19 Improper Storage



Covid-19 Improper Storage



Covid-19 Improper Storage



Covid-19 Improper Storage



Covid-19 Improper Storage



Covid-19 Improper Storage



Covid-19 Improper Storage



Result of Improper Storage

- ❖ Spills and Releases
- ❖ Fires

Sanitizer Fires



Sanitizer Fires



Sanitizer Fires



Excess Covid-19 Sanitizing Products

- ❖ Over production
- ❖ Excess products began to expire
- ❖ Expensive to properly dispose of due to flammable product
- ❖ Illegal disposal and Abandonments

Department Advisory

ABANDONED HAND SANITIZER IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

BACKGROUND

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there have been a surplus of sanitizing products, especially hand sanitizer, abandoned and stored throughout Los Angeles County, the state, and the nation.
- In many cases these products may be expired, degraded, contaminated, or under an FDA recall.

CURRENT SITUATION

- There have been numerous locations of abandoned hand sanitizer discovered throughout Los Angeles County. The Los Angeles County Fire Department and local police departments have responded to 15 such locations within the last month alone. At one location, there were 84 pallets totaling ~17,000 gallons.
- Many businesses have been found to be illegally storing large quantities of hand sanitizer inside buildings and in exterior storage locations that do not meet the Building & Safety Occupancy Classification, Fire Code and Health & Safety Code requirements.
- The rise in dumping of hand sanitizer may be a result of the high cost associated with the legal management and disposal of these products.



SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS AND REPORTING REQUIRMENTS

- Hand sanitizer is a highly flammable liquid and due to its high alcohol content is considered a hazardous material.
- Alcohol-based sanitizers are a Class IB flammable liquid, and its storage is restricted due to its flammability.
- Release of hand sanitizer into the environment may potentially cause fires, impact aquatic life, and contaminate waterways.
- If you should discover any abandoned hand sanitizer in your jurisdiction, please notify the local Fire Department Dispatch and the local Unified Program Agency.

Criminal Cases

- ❖ Inventory and Photographs.
- ❖ Collect sample and run analytical of products.
- ❖ Dispose of the products.

Criminal Cases

- ❖ Obtain Videos.
- ❖ Interview witnesses and responsible parties.
- ❖ Report Write-up.
- ❖ File with DA's and/or US Attorney's office.

Increase in Other Type of Incidents

- ❖ Illegal Butane Honey Oil (BHO) Labs.
- ❖ Fentanyl Incidents

Illicit BHO Labs



Illicit BHO Labs



Illicit BHO Labs



Illicit BHO Labs



Illicit BHO Labs



Illicit BHO Labs



Illicit BHO Labs



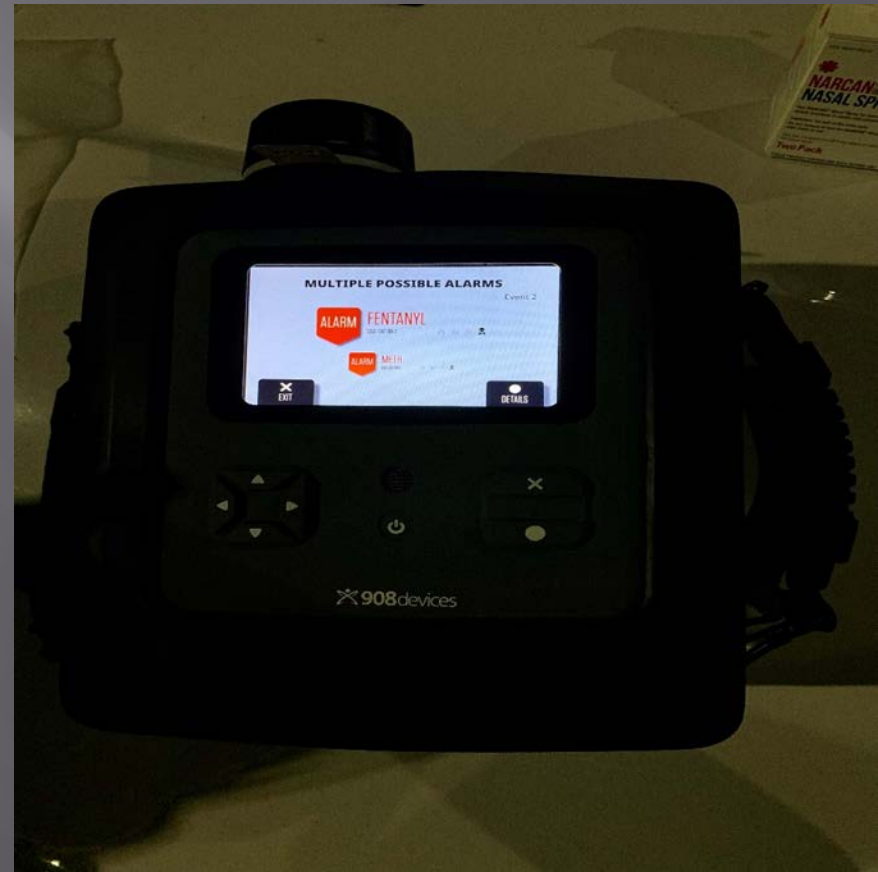
Methamphetamine and Fentanyl Incidents



Methamphetamine and Fentanyl Incidents



Methamphetamine and Fentanyl Incidents



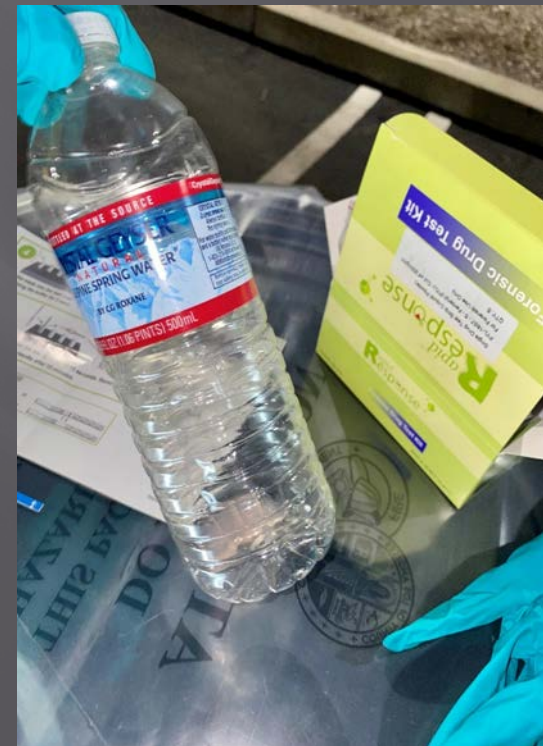
Methamphetamine and Fentanyl Incidents



Methamphetamine and Fentanyl Incidents



Methamphetamine and Fentanyl Incidents



Inspection Section

Common Violations Cited

- ❖ Labeling
- ❖ Training
- ❖ Accumulation time periods

Inspection Section

Common Violations Cited

- ❖ CERS Submittals
- ❖ Housekeeping
- ❖ Waste Manifests