Susan Duenas, MA

Director of Public Safety, City of Malibu

Speaker Bio:

I am currently the Director of Public Safety for the City of Malibu. I have worked in the field of emergency management for over 30 years responding to earthquakes, floods, an airline crash, a train crash, landslides, winter storms, numerous fires, and terrorism. Some of the more well-known incidents include the year 2000 Alaska Airlines Flight 261 disaster, the 2005 La Conchita landslide, 2015 Metrolink crash, 2017 Tubbs Fire and the 2018 Woolsey Fire. In addition to Malibu, I have worked for the cities of Oxnard, El Segundo and West Hollywood, as well as the Ventura County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services for 15 years. While working for Ventura County, I spearheaded the County's Homeland Security Programs. In 2008 I was chosen by the cities of Thousand Oaks, Ventura, Oxnard, and Camarillo to lead the Oxnard-Thousand Oaks Area Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI). A key project of the Oxnard Area UASI was a Critical Infrastructure and Key Resource Protection Program where I worked with a local team of first responders to conduct critical infrastructure assessments. In addition to my professional experience, I have a master's degree in public policy & administration.

Presentation Title:

The Power of Less

We often overlook the concept and value of "less." It is common to think that more is associated with competence, success, and better quality. However, sometimes, more is just more and can interfere with our ability to find what is truly valuable.