



News from the Emergency Management Committee Chair (5/6/22)

Upcoming Oversight Hearing

SUBJECT: Update on the Implementation of the Governor's SMARTER Plan

WHEN: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

WHERE: State Capitol, Room 126

New Coronavirus Variants Emerge: BA.4, BA.5 Likely Reinfected Omicron Survivors

[*The Los Angeles Times reports*](#) a pair of new omicron subvariants has emerged, raising the possibility that survivors of earlier Omicron strains can get reinfected.

BA.4 and BA.5 have gained increasing attention in South Africa as weekly coronavirus cases tripled in the last two weeks, according to data from Johns Hopkins University.

The rapid growth of BA.4 and BA.5 in South Africa has implications for a potential future surge in California and the U.S. Until now, scientists had been reassured that people who survived the first Omicron variant over the winter, BA.1, were unlikely to be reinfected by the even more infectious subvariant BA.2, which is now dominant nationwide.

But the surge in cases in South Africa of BA.4 and BA.5 follow an earlier Omicron wave. An estimated 90% of South Africa's population has immunity to the earlier Omicron variants either due to surviving a natural infection or through vaccination.

Only a small number of cases of BA.4 and BA.5 have been documented in [California](#). In April, one case of BA.5 was documented, and in March, one case of BA.4 was confirmed, according to the California Department of Public Health.

The Omicron subvariant BA.2 remains California's dominant variant, accounting for 88% of nearly 3,600 analyzed cases in April, while the ascendant BA.2.12.1 and its relative, BA.2.12, accounted for 9% of cases. To read more on these new variants and if experts expect another wave in the U.S., [visit the full article](#).

Here We Go Again: California Coronavirus Cases Rising. Is a New Wave Coming Soon?

[*The Los Angeles Times reports*](#) after months of declining numbers, California has recorded a nearly 30% increase in coronavirus cases over the last week along with smaller rises in hospitalizations, causing some health officials to suspect that the state is headed into a new pandemic wave.

The increase coincides with a loosening of COVID-19 restrictions such as mask mandates and vaccine verification rules as well as the rise of new subvariants of the highly transmissible Omicron strain. The question now is how much higher cases will go and whether new government intervention will be needed.

California has been recording about 5,600 coronavirus cases a day over the last week, its highest case rate since early March. California's latest per capita case rate — 100 cases a week for every 100,000 residents — is just enough to meet the threshold for a high rate of coronavirus transmission, data analyzed by The Times show.

Coronavirus-positive hospitalizations have risen 7% in the last week, ticking up to 1,037 statewide as of Saturday. Of them, 146 were in intensive care units, a figure that's up 13% over the same time period.

The number of hospitalizations is still among the lowest levels of the pandemic. But the state's COVID Assessment Tool [ensemble forecast](#) suggests hospitalizations will go up by an additional 65% by Memorial Day and that the number of COVID-19 patients needing intensive care will double by then.

On Sunday, the state estimated that the effective coronavirus transmission rate was 1.24. This means each infected Californian is typically transmitting the virus to more than one person, which may indicate the virus' spread is increasing.

To read further updates and predictions regarding case numbers rising, [visit the full article](#).

Bay Area COVID Cases and Hospitalizations Rise Again as New Infections Swell in April

[The San Francisco Chronicle reports](#) an upturn in coronavirus cases and hospitalizations in the Bay Area is beginning to gather steam, as new COVID-19 infections in the region have risen 167% in the same month that saw the state dropping most mitigation measures, including vaccine verification and mask requirements for schools and public transit.

All nine Bay Area counties now have a “high” level of coronavirus transmission, according to metrics from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. That means each county reported more than 100 cases per 100,000 residents last week.

Hospitalizations are creeping up, too. As of Monday, Bay Area hospitals had 330 patients with COVID, after the figure fell as low as 217 on April 15. Throughout California, there were 1,093 hospital patients with COVID, compared to the most recent low of 949 after the decline of the winter omicron surge.

San Francisco and Santa Cruz counties have the highest coronavirus infection rates in the state, as of Tuesday, each reporting an average of 38 cases per 100,000 residents. That's up from about 3 per 100,000 a month ago. And the number likely undercounts cases since many people now rely on at-home tests that don't usually get reported or added to official figures.

San Francisco's coronavirus test positive rate reached 7.9% on Tuesday, according to new city data. The rate is more than double the 3.2% test positive rate for California as a whole, and above the 5% threshold public health experts consider acceptable for controlling the spread of the virus.

“The level of virus transmission is similar to what we were experiencing last summer, though our COVID hospitalization levels are much lower,” Marc Muelman, director of public health for San Mateo County, told the supervisors on Tuesday.

The daily case rate in San Mateo County was 34.5 cases per 100,000 residents as of Monday, among the highest in the state, with the test positivity rate at 4.5% countywide.

The increase comes as most coronavirus mitigation measures have been eliminated and the new BA.2.12.1 subvariant starts to sweep across the region.

To read further details on the rise of coronavirus cases, [visit the full article](#).

Why Getting COVID is Still Nothing like Getting the Flu – Even if it’s Just as ‘Normal’

[The San Francisco Chronicle reports](#) health officials are saying it, friends are saying it: COVID-19 seems on track to become as common and familiar to us as influenza. But experts stress that there are still limitations to this comparison — COVID is still, and may always be, no ordinary flu.

“It is time to accept that the presence of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, is the new normal,” leaders at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration wrote in a paper published Monday in the Journal of the American Medical Association. “It will likely circulate globally for the foreseeable future, taking its place alongside other common respiratory viruses such as influenza.”

At the beginning of the pandemic, experts noted, drawing comparisons between COVID-19 and the flu was highly politicized — a way to minimize a new disease that would go on to kill nearly a million people in the U.S. alone. But now, with vaccines and treatments more widely available, comparing the two is more appropriate.

“Today, for a vaccinated and boosted person, the chances of a severe outcome are comparable to the flu,” said Dr. Bob Wachter, the chair of medicine at UCSF. He noted that Paxlovid, the antiviral pill used to treat COVID-19, even further reduces the chance of death.

In the Bay Area, for example, where the vast majority of people are vaccinated, all types of severe outcomes from COVID-19, including both hospitalization and death, are far lower than they were in winter 2020 through 2021, despite a surge in cases.

For many, the experience of having COVID will likely be similar to being sick with the flu — the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention notes that the two can be difficult to tell apart on symptoms alone.

But there are still key differences between the two infectious diseases that limit just how much we can learn from the yearly flu.

While the disease manifestation might be similar in the two, the underlying viruses are still very different, Dr. Jorge Salinas, an assistant professor of infectious disease at Stanford, said — and the virus that causes COVID-19 is still not very well understood.

He compared the viruses interacting with our immune system to a soccer match: getting the flu is like playing a team you know well. While surprises and upsets can occur, we generally know what to expect.

But getting COVID is something different entirely.

“COVID is a very sneaky team. We don’t know that much about it, and they may not play by the rules of the game,” he said.

Experts also noted COVID is far more infectious than the flu, which means that it puts more people at risk of severe disease and death by way of infecting far more people.

“There’s never been a flu season when you would look around and know so many people that had it,” Wachter added.

COVID also brings the potential for long-term effects, including neurological complications, heart disease and diabetes, something that the flu does not have on a large scale, experts said.

“I don’t want to be an alarmist, but there are certain viral diseases that don’t manifest until 10 to 20 years later,” Salinas said. “I am positive that we don’t know yet what the full scale of short, mid- and long-term manifestations are of COVID-19.”

Finally, COVID is still too new and unpredictable to compare to the seasonal flu, which comes and goes over the winter, experts said. While COVID has shown signs of being worse during the winter, like the flu, that is largely a product of behaviors like spending more time indoors.

“I think that there is going to be and there is already some seasonality, some variation with seasons, but I haven’t seen yet that transmission has gone down to very negligible levels in warmer months,” Salinas said.

Experts noted that COVID surges continue to happen at any point throughout the year, and with new, more infectious variants repeatedly popping up, there’s no way to predict what happens next.

“The surges have been too frequent so far to say that it will be just like flu season,” Myoung Cha, president of home-based care and chief strategy officer at Carbon Health, [previously told The Chronicle](#).

California COVID-19 ETS Changes: Fewer Differences Between Vaccinated and Unvaccinated Employees

[JD Supra reports](#) ahead of the April 21st vote on the final version of Cal/OSHA’s COVID emergency temporary standard (ETS), the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board published [the language the board was to consider](#). As of April 28, 2022, the previous version of the ETS was still posted on the [California OSHA website](#).

The OAL ([Office of Administrative Law](#)) must first review and allow the new emergency standard wording to be put into place. As of April 28, 2022, the ETS was still [listed on their site](#) as under review. Assuming the ETS will be signed off on by the OAL, employers may wish to familiarize themselves with some of the changes within the wording of the proposed regulation.

The bulk of the ETS requirements in the previous version will remain in place, but some requirements have been decreased.

To read a summary of some important changes in the newest version, [visit the full article](#).

Supreme Court Has Voted to Overturn Abortion Rights, Draft Opinion Shows

[POLITICO reports](#) the Supreme Court has voted to strike down the landmark *Roe v. Wade* decision, according to an initial draft majority opinion written by Justice Samuel Alito circulated inside the court and obtained by POLITICO.

The draft opinion is a full-throated, unflinching repudiation of the 1973 decision which guaranteed federal, constitutional protections of abortion rights and a subsequent 1992 decision – *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* – that largely maintained the right. “*Roe* was egregiously wrong from the start,” Alito writes.

“We hold that *Roe* and *Casey* must be overruled,” he writes in the document, labeled as the “Opinion of the Court.” “It is time to heed the Constitution and return the issue of abortion to the people’s elected representatives.”

The immediate impact of the ruling as drafted in February would be to end a half-century guarantee of federal constitutional protection of abortion rights and allow each state to decide whether to restrict or ban abortion. It’s unclear if there have been subsequent changes to the draft.

No draft decision in the modern history of the court has been disclosed publicly while a case was still pending. The unprecedented revelation is bound to intensify the debate over what was already the most controversial case on the docket this term.

To read further details on this draft decision and what it could mean for the future of reproductive rights, [visit the full article](#).

California Leaders Vow to Protect Abortion in Constitution

[The Sacramento Bee reports](#) California voters could get a chance to add abortion prosecutions to the state’s constitution this fall.

Governor Newsom and top legislative leaders committed Monday to putting an amendment on the November ballot that would “enshrine the right to choose” in California.

Their comments came hours after Politico published a draft opinion from the court that revealed a majority of nine justices want to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, the landmark 1973 ruling that stopped state governments from banning abortion.

If the court overturns *Roe v. Wade*, at least 26 states are likely to either further restrict abortion access or ban it outright, according to the Guttmacher Institute, an abortion rights advocacy group.

California won’t be one of them. Instead, Newsom has pledged to make California a sanctuary for people to come and get abortions. State legislative leaders have endorsed 13 bills to do so, including proposals that would potentially use taxpayer money to pay for people from other states to come to California for abortions.

Monday night, Newsom and legislative leaders added another proposal to their list: an amendment to the state constitution. They provided no further details, other than saying it would preserve the right to choose.

“We know we can’t trust the Supreme Court to protect reproductive rights, so California will build a firewall around this right in our state constitution,” Newsom, Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon and Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins said in a joint statement. “Women will remain protected here.”

If successful, the amendment wouldn’t change much in California, where a majority of lawmakers have repeatedly demonstrated their commitment to keeping abortion legal and accessible. However, it would make it much harder for future lawmakers to repeal those protections.

Newsom’s office said its goal is to put the amendment on the ballot this November, though lawmakers will have to act quickly to make that happen. They have to vote on it before the end of June to give state officials enough time to print the ballots. It takes a two-thirds vote of the Legislature to put a constitutional amendment on the ballot.

Governor Newsom Proclaims Wildfire Preparedness Week 2022

[Governor Newsom issued a proclamation](#) on Monday declaring May 1-7, 2022, as “Wildfire Preparedness Week” in the State of California.

The text of the proclamation can be found [here](#), and a copy is included in his [press release](#).

How California Agencies Stay Prepared for Year-Round Wildfire Season

[NBC Bay Area reports](#) with California’s ongoing drought, fire season is quickly becoming a year-round issue.

So far this year, Cal Fire already has responded to more than 1,400 wildfires, burning more than 6,500 acres.

As Wildfire Preparedness Week is underway, *NBC Bay Area* discusses some of the preparation with Brian Marshall, fire and rescue chief at the California Office of Emergency Services.

To watch the full interview [click here](#). You can find more information on [Cal Fire’s website](#).

Wildfire Ready: Cal OES Fire Fleet of More than 270 Fire Engines Ready to be Used in Times of Need

[The California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services \(Cal OES\)](#) is on the frontlines in coordinating disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts statewide.

“As we enter into this wildfire season, Cal OES is actively working on new technologies to keep our communities safe,” said Cal OES Director Mark Ghilarducci. “From being able to actively identify weather patterns to having the ability to actively see fire spread and determining how we deploy resources, these technologies are essential to our role in the mutual aid system and helps increase the ability to respond to all the threats we have in California.”

For wildfires, the Cal OES Fire and Rescue Branch facilitates the California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System to deploy its fleet of more than 270 fire engines to over 60 local partners across the state to build on the state’s capacity to respond to incidents of all types.

Cal OEs assigns local government fire agencies with fire apparatus to maintain surge capacity during day-to-day duties and major events and emergencies.

From responding to wildfires in rural settings, to protecting structures in urban areas or performing urban search and rescue operations, these engines are outfitted to support a variety of situations.

The various types of engines Cal OES deploys to local partners include:

- Type I engines, the largest in the Cal OES firefighting fleet, mainly used for structure firefighting and defense. These engines can also be used for search and rescue, but aren't intended for off road missions.
- Type III engines, mostly used for wildland fire response.
- Type VI engines, able to carry with a 4-person crew, the smallest of the fleet.
- Water Tenders, carry water to support firefighting operations.

Through the mutual aid system, each of these engines play an important part to save lives and protect property statewide.

These engines build on the capacity of our partners, both at Cal FIRE and the federal government.

'Game Changer': New Cal Fire Helicopter Will Fight Fires at Night for the First Time

[Fox 40 reports](#) Silorsky Firehawk helicopters, which attack wildfires and rescue people, have been called a game-changer.

"It does provide a lot of power for us," said Ben Berman, with Cal Fire.

Over the past few years, that power has been crucial throughout wildfire season.

"It's capable of three times the water capacity of what the Huey can provide. It's got a 1,000-gallon tank on it. It can fly a third faster than a Huey as well," Berman said.

The helicopters also provide night vision. Berman, who is chief helicopter pilot for Cal Fire, said the Firehawk chopper will be able to fight wildfires at night for the first time. In past years, flights were limited to daylight hours.

"It's ready to go now. With our group we have here, we are ready for an as-needed basis. We are ready for extended attack," Berman said.

But there are only four trained instructor pilots.

"The difference between the Huey and the hawk, you have a lot more information. You are information-saturated," Berman explained.

Berman and his colleagues used those options in a training mission near Folsom Lake.

They practiced nighttime flight operations, including landings, water dipping and dropping, fire suppression tactics and rescue operations.

Another challenge to flying at night is the reduction of what a pilot can see compared to during the day.

Through night flying, Cal Fire hopes to get the upper hand on wildfires earlier than ever this season.

To read more details on the new Firehawk helicopters, [view the full article](#).

Here's When Experts Think Danger Will Peak in Northern California for New Blazes

[The San Francisco Chronicle reports](#) Northern California firefighters are preparing for what could be “the absolute worst” fire season this year, with the potential for significant blazes expected to increase in July, Cal Fire officials said Thursday.

The potential for significant fires in the Bay Area and other parts of Northern California is expected to increase in June and last through August, according to the latest monthly and seasonal outlook from the National Interagency Fire Center.

Meteorologists predicted those blazes could start through a “thunderstorm complex or two targeting areas near and north of the San Francisco Bay region and points north,” according to AccuWeather.

Isaac Sanchez, battalion chief of communications for Cal Fire, said the agency typically sees higher chances for “large, destructive” fires from June to August due to dry conditions that could create receptive fuel beds and lead to catastrophic blazes.

“What we’ve seen in recent history is the window for that potential, for large disruptive fires, is getting wider,” said Sanchez.

“But now with climate change and the conditions that we’re facing as a result, that time can start in May,” he said.

The state has seen about 200 fewer fires so far this year compared to last year, according to Cal Fire [data](#). But more than 1,700 acres have burned as of April 29 than last year, the data shows.

To prepare for this year’s wildfire season, Cal Fire officials have traveled across the state for “[Wildfire Preparedness Week](#)” to urge residents to create an evacuation plan, prepare their homes to survive potential blazes and prevent fires from sparking. Sanchez said over 90% of fires are typically sparked by “human activity.”

“We have to prepare for the absolute worst,” he said. “And what we want is for the public to do the exact same thing with us because it’s very much a cooperative effort between the public and the fire service in the state of California.”

Officials Worry Southern California Won’t Have Enough Water to Get Through Summer Without Unprecedented Cuts

[ABC News KAKE reports](#) as Southern Californians brace for unprecedented water restrictions, officials worry some communities won’t have enough water to get through the summer – at least not without residents and businesses significantly cutting back on their usage.

The state’s top natural resources officer told CNN that California’s water emergency clearly shows the climate crisis in action.

Scientists reported earlier this year that the West’s current megadrought is the worst in at least 1,200 years and that the human-caused climate crisis has made it 72% worse.

For the past two decades, weather in the West has been characterized by extended periods of drought with fleeting bursts of wintertime precipitation which have never been enough to overcome the region's severe water shortage.

In California, snow typically builds up in the Sierra Nevada throughout the winter, storing precious water that gradually melts through the spring and early summer and replenishes reservoirs. In a normal year, snow melt would provide 30% of the state's water, according to the Department of Water Resources.

But by April, at the end of this year's wet season, California's snowpack was only 4% of normal. By May there was no snow at all.

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, a regional water wholesaler, sells water to 26 member agencies which then serve some 19 million people in six counties.

In light of the foreseen shortage, Metropolitan, for the first time in its nearly 100-year history, is mandating that restrictions be put in place for parts of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Ventura counties that receive water through the State Water Project, which pipes water down from the Northern Sierra Nevada Mountains and the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. They have two options: they can either implement volumetric limitations, or demand customers reduce their outdoor watering to one day a week by June 1.

At the same time, the water district is asking all Southern Californians to cut their usage by 35%.

"The action has to happen now because we can't wait until the middle of the summer," Adel Hagekhalil, the general manager of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, told CNN. "It'll be too late, and I don't want anybody to turn on the faucet and not have water."

Targeting outdoor watering could have a large impact on water conservation, officials say. If not enough water is saved, Metropolitan Water District says it is prepared to ban all outdoor watering on September 1.

The Metropolitan Water District also gets 25% of its water from the Colorado River, where the West's megadrought is starkly visible. The river system supplies water to some 40 million people across seven states and Mexico, and its two major reservoirs -- the country's largest -- are draining rapidly.

The federal government announced Tuesday it is taking unprecedented, emergency steps to help boost water levels at Lake Powell, and buy the surrounding communities more time to plan for the very real possibility the reservoir, the country's second-largest, will soon run out of water.

At Lake Mead, the waterline has dropped so low in the lake that it has exposed a water intake valve that had been in service since 1971. The Southern Nevada Water Authority activating a newer, low-lake pumping station to still be able to access water for its customers.

"But (the pumping station) coming online is also a symbol of how serious the situation is on the Colorado River right now," said Colby Pellegrino, deputy general manager of resources for Southern Nevada Water Authority. "Reservoir levels are lower than they've ever been in both Lake Powell and Lake Mead since the time that they filled."

LAPD Honors 238 Officers Killed in the Line of Duty

[*The Los Angeles Times reports*](#) the Los Angeles Police Department on Wednesday honored 238 officers killed in the line of duty, including a special tribute to those who died of complications from COVID-19.

The ceremony featured traditional police honors: the “missing man” helicopter flyover formation, the riderless horse, a solo bugler playing taps, and the “end of watch broadcast.” Families placed a long-stem rose near their loved one’s name plate at the newly renovated memorial wall.

Chief Michel Moore was to announce the inclusion of 15 officers who died in 1918-19, as a result of the Spanish flu.

Three Charged with Murder in Connection with Sacramento Mass Shooting

[*The Sacramento Bee reports*](#) Sacramento prosecutors have filed the first murder charges in the April 3rd gang shootout downtown, charging brothers Smiley Martin and Dandrae Martin, as well as fugitive Mtula Payton each with three counts stemming from the shooting deaths of three women killed in the crossfire.

Sacramento County District Attorney Anne Marie Schubert and Sacramento Police Chief Kathy Lester announced the charges Tuesday afternoon as prosecutors filed court documents outlining the precise details of the 2 a.m. shootout that killed six people and wounded 12 gathered near 10th and K streets.

“This was a gun battle between two rival gangs,” Schubert said. “The evidence shows that the rival gang members armed themselves with weapons.”

The Martin brothers, who are currently in the Sacramento County Main Jail on weapon charges, and Payton, who is still being sought by police, are each charged with three counts of murder in the deaths of Yamile Martinez, 21; Johntaya Alexander, 21; and Melinda Davis, 57, who authorities believe were innocent bystanders cut down in a hail of bullets between two groups of shooters.

Schubert’s office filed the charges along with special circumstances that the suspects allegedly committed multiple murders, a filing that could lead to a death penalty prosecution if Schubert’s office decides to pursue such.

Payton was also charged separately with \$45,000 in Employment Development Department fraud allegedly committed while he was in prison in 2020.

No charges were filed in the deaths of three men shot that night, with court papers saying they were involved in the gunfight or appeared to be armed. A 47-page arrest warrant filed with the charges says Joshua Hoye-Lucchesi, 32, is seen on video “holding a dark object in his hand that could be consistent with a black firearm,” that DeVazia Turner, 29, is seen on video firing a gun that Sergio Harris, 38, was later found to have gunshot residue on his hands.

In all, according to the police document, investigators recovered 114 spent casings.

“Investigators located approximately 51 spent nine-millimeter (9mm) caliber shell casings near the apex of where the east 10th Street sidewalk curves east turning into the north K Street sidewalk,” the warrant says. “An additional 18 spent 9mm caliber shell casings were located along the east 10th Street sidewalk heading north toward J Street.”

To read further information on the case, including details of the surveillance video showing confrontation, [visit the full article](#).

ICYMI: Funding Opportunities Ending Soon

- **2022-23 Probation Specialized Units (PU) Program RFP**; *consumer protection; education; law, justice, and legal services*
 - Funded by: Governor’s Office of Emergency Service
 - Deadline: **Friday, May 6, 2022**
 - Total Estimated Funding: \$500k
 - Full Grant Guidelines: [linked here](#)
- **Strong Communities Program**; *disadvantaged communities; health & human services; housing, community, and economic development*
 - Funded by: Department of Social Services
 - Deadline: **Friday, May 13, 2022**
 - Total Estimated Funding: \$5 million
 - Full Grant Guidelines: [linked here](#)
 - **Online Application**: [linked here](#)
- **2022 California Nutrition Incentive Program – CalFresh**; *agriculture; food & nutrition*
 - Funded by: CA Department of Food and Agriculture
 - Deadline: **Monday, May 16, 2022**
 - Total Estimated Funding: \$31 million
 - Full Grant Guidelines: [linked here](#)

2022-23 Specialized Emergency Housing (KE) Program RFP

[The Governor’s Office of Emergency Services](#) has created the KE Program to expand emergency shelter/emergency housing assistance and provide supportive services for victims of crime with specialized needs (e.g., elderly, youth, men, disabled, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (LGBTQ+), non-English speaking, culturally or religiously marginalized, etc.) who cannot be served through a traditional shelter. In addition, victims must be allowed to choose which supportive services best fit their needs.

The VSB has several programs that address shelter needs and supportive services for victims of crime. However, traditional shelters and services aren’t always the best choice for victims with specialized needs (e.g., elderly, youth, men, disabled, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (LGBTQ+), non-English speaking, culturally or religiously marginalized, etc.). Barriers exist that affect their ability and willingness to engage, and finding alternative shelter can be extremely challenging.

Since 2017, California has implemented the Housing First Model as defined in Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code Section 8255 to address the prevalence of homelessness in California. The Housing First Model is an approach to connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness quickly and successfully to permanent housing without preconditions and barriers to entry, such as sobriety, treatment, or service participation requirements.

In fiscal year 2021-22, W&I Code Section 8255 was amended and the language to exempt “programs that fund state shelters” was removed. Therefore, shelter programs such as the KE

Program are required to adopt guidelines and regulations of the Housing First Model (see W&I Code Section 8255 for the core components of Housing First).

For a proposal to be eligible to compete for funding (i.e., read and rated) all the following conditions must be met:

- The Applicant can be a governmental or non-governmental entity.
- The proposal must be submitted per the instructions in C. SUBMISSION DEADLINE AND REQUIREMENTS.

Requires a cash and/or in-kind match equal to 20 percent of the total project cost. Applicants may request a partial or full match waiver (match waiver requests are not considered during the Proposal Rating process).

To request a match waiver, Applicants must submit the VOCA Match Waiver Request form (Attachment A) with their proposal. One form per each VOCA fund source is required. All sections of the form must be completed.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Monday, May 23, 2022**. Total estimated funding available is \$9.6 million. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).

2022-23 Victim Advocacy in Detention Facilities (KA) Program RFP

[The Governor's Office of Emergency Services](#) has created the KA Program to increase access to appropriate services for sexual assault victims in local detention facilities including adult detention facilities, juvenile detention facilities, and immigration detention facilities. Subrecipients may work with one or more detention facilities in their service area.

For the purposes of this RFP, local detention facilities include adult detention facilities, juvenile detention facilities, and immigration detention facilities. Subrecipients may work with one or more detention facilities in their service area. The KA Program requires each Subrecipient to fund a Sexual Assault Counselor, per Evidence Code 1035.2, to solely focus on serving victims in local detention facilities, and to act as a point of contact for detention facility staff to assist in removing any physical or programmatic barriers to services for victims.

Only Cal OES-funded Rape Crisis (RC) Program Subrecipients are eligible to apply.

Applicants may request a partial or full match waiver (match waiver requests are not considered during the Proposal Rating process).

To request a match waiver for more than one VOCA fund source, Applicants must submit the VOCA Match Waiver Request form (Attachment A) with their proposal. All sections of the form must be completed. Answers to questions 9 through 11 must be specific and unique to the Applicant and Program.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Wednesday, May 25, 2022**. Total estimated funding available is \$2,534,828. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).

2022-23 California Medical Training Center (EM) Program RFP

[The Governor's Office of Emergency Services](#) has created the EM Program to ensure forensic examinations are conducted in a standard and consistent manner throughout California. This is

accomplished through the development of standardized forms, protocols, and training for forensic medical examiners, law enforcement, prosecutors, and court personnel.

Applicants must be a hospital-based training center that meets the requirements set forth in Penal Code (PC) § 13823.93.

Requires a cash or in-kind match equal to 25 percent of the total project cost. Tribes and victim service providers are exempt.

To request a match waiver, Applicants must submit the STOP Match Waiver Request form (Attachment B) with their proposal.

Cal OES's four-digit code for this federal fund is STOP. This code will be in the drop-down on the Grant Subaward Face Sheet (Cal OES Form 2-101).

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Friday, June 3, 2022**. Total estimated funding available is \$942,523. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).