

BUSINESSSAFE

BusinessSafe is designed to aid businesses in protecting the safety and well-being of Florida's residents and visitors from threats. BusinessSafe provides private sector partners with open source information, analysis and resources to help protect their businesses and communities.

Florida Fusion Center 22-086

September 2022, Issue #85

BusinessSafe Sector Highlight: Emergency Services – Public Works

Public works is one of the five disciplines that comprise the Emergency Services Sector. Public works is the combination of physical assets, management practices, and personnel necessary in order for government to provide and sustain structures, and services essential to the welfare and acceptable quality of life for its citizens. Some services provided by public works include water management, utility and public roadway management, and solid waste management. During emergencies public works often supplies the equipment, labor, and services needed to clear roads, restore utilities, and maintain traffic for other emergency services.

Criminal Activity

Fraud and theft - Criminals may target public works facilities, vehicles, or personnel in an attempt to steal equipment, clothing, or security items. Stolen items could be used for the criminal's personal use, sold for personal gain, or used to gain access to areas restricted from public access. Uniforms and identification documents may also be used by criminals to impersonate a public works employee in order to exploit the public's trust and commit further crimes.

[Police make arrest in case of fake FPL workers distracting and robbing elderly woman](#)

[Firefighting equipment, public works pickup truck stolen in Hudson's Hope](#)

[Man takes stolen construction vehicle on 2.5-mile joyride down A1A](#)

Cyberattacks - Due to public works insuring the continued flow of essential resources to the public, this sector may be targeted by cyber criminals. Cyber criminals may target public works organizations to obtain sensitive information being stored by the organization about its employees and customers, or employ ransomware and denial of service to disrupt operations and demand payment to terminate or avoid a cyber-attack.

[Cyberattack shuts down Fremont County offices, disrupting government services](#)

[Cyberattack Causes Significant Disruption at Colorado Electric Utility](#)

Resources

- The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency provides multiple resources including training opportunities relating to the [Emergency Services Sector](#).
- The Federal Emergency Management Agency provides multiple [training and education](#) resources for first responders, emergency managers, individuals, and communities to help them be prepared before during and after disasters.
- "If You See Something, Say Something" – Report suspicious activity to your local law enforcement agency, on the FDLE website using [Florida's See Something, Saw Something Tool Kit](#) or by calling 8855-FLA-Safe. In an emergency, call 911.



Florida Fusion Center
(800) 342-0820

FLBusinessSafe@FDLE.state.fl.us

Author: FL8642, FL8849 Approval: FL8651, HSEC:1, 2, FSIN:1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.4, 1.10, 3.1.6, 2.14.7, FFC:1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 4.5, 6.4