

Tweet That! An EMS Guide to Using Social Media

© Richard Huff



- ■Former Chief, Atlantic Highlands First Aid & Safety Squad
- ■EMT-B, NREMT-B
- ■NJ EMS Task Force
- ■NVFC/EMS R Division, Director-at-Large
- Journalist
- Public relations executive



- ■What is social media
- ■How you can use it in a crisis
- ■Why you must be in it



When bombs went off



Boston Police confirming explosion at marathon finish line with injuries. #tweetfromthebeat via

@CherylFiandaca

4/15/13, 3:39 PM

448 RETWEETS 49 FAVORITES



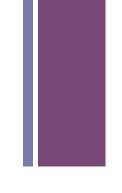




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When the ground moved





Snohomish County @snocounty · Mar 22

Huge landslide on SR 530 at mp 37-38. Fire/rescue on scene. @SnoCo_DEM coordinating. Please avoid area. Follow us here for updates #530slide

♠ Reply ★ Retweet ★ Favorite ••• More Collapse

RETWEETS **FAVORITES** 30 6















+ Social media in action





Great tool, can cause problems

Fire commissioner's son Joseph Cassano quits EMS in wake of racist tweets firestorm

Cassano, 23, had tweeted racist statements regarding working with Jews and blacks in his role as an EMS technician. He had only been on the job three months.

BY GINGER ADAMS OTIS / NEW YORK DAILY NEWS / Published: Monday, March 18, 2013, 1:15 PM

/ Updated: Tuesday, March 19, 2013, 1:43 AM

AAA

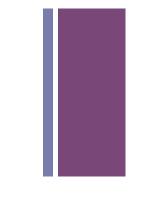


Y GINGER ADAMS OTIS

The fire commissioner's son quit the Emergency Medical Service Monday after he was accused of accused of sending racist and offensive tweets.

Joseph Cassano, 23, son of FDNY head Salvatore Cassano, stepped down after less than three months on the job as an emergency medical technician.

* What's your story?



- ■How are your organizations using social media now?
- Are you comfortable?
- Have you had any problems?
- Are you prepared for storms, crisis, etc?

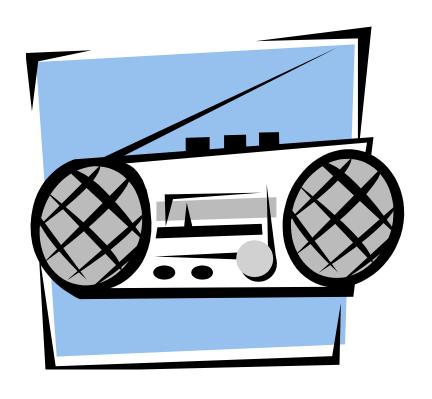


+ Social Media is a must





When Disaster Hits



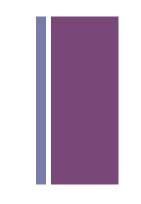




Shoot first, call later









- **■**Save lives
- Reach a larger group of people
- **■**Correct information
- Transparency
- ■Reduce 911 calls



Social media is critical

- **■**Hurricane Irene
- VirginiaEarthquake
- ■Superstorm Sandy
- Boston MarathonBombings





Warning! Danger!





Back to our program





- ■255 million monthly active users
- **■500** million Tweets are sent per day
- ■78% of Twitter active users are on mobile



■Red Cross Study
- 80% said
responders
should monitor
social media and
respond.





@FDNY - Sandy



Followed by Emily Steel and 1 other



Michael Luo @michaelluo · 29 Oct 2012

My friends' parents who are trapped on #StatenIsland are at 238 Weed Ave.

Water almost up to 2nd flr. #sandy cc @fdny

Expand

♠ Reply ★ Retweet ★ Favorite ••• More



Anyone with a phone can report



Mike Dauber @dauber · 12h LAX just shut down. Not letting anyone out of the terminal. So much for #codecon pic.twitter.com/GMAIKgtHsI



RETWEETS 15 FAVORITES

A.



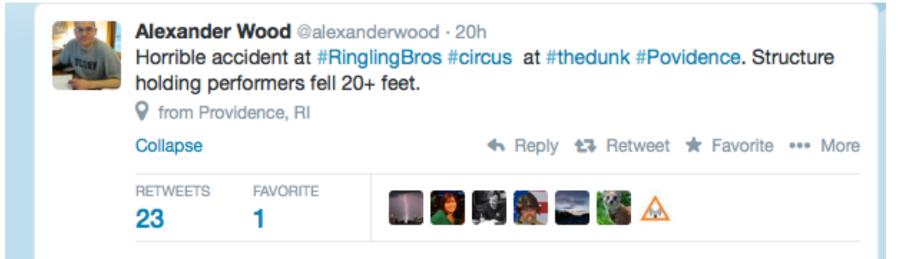








Circus accident



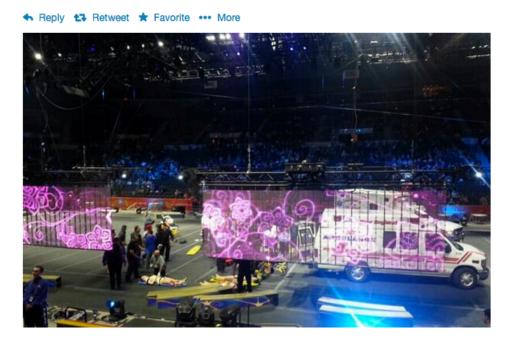


Tweet with an image





Ambulances in #thedunk after horrible #ringlingbros accident in #Providence. pic.twitter.com/LYqnYwhYLN





Breaking news





We are responding for a serious ax near Pennsylvania Ave/Walters Ln. Initial reports indicate one of our officers is involved/injured. NFD



8:21 AM - 22 May 2014

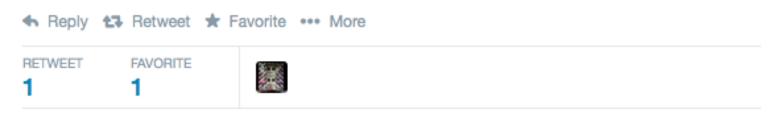


Incident follow up





Media staging area - Pennsylvania Ave & Walters Lane. In parking lot w/McDonalds. We will brief as soon as possible.



9:05 AM - 22 May 2014



Tweet with a link





PGPD patrol officer seriously injured while on traffic stop. tinyurl.com/pa6t6yl

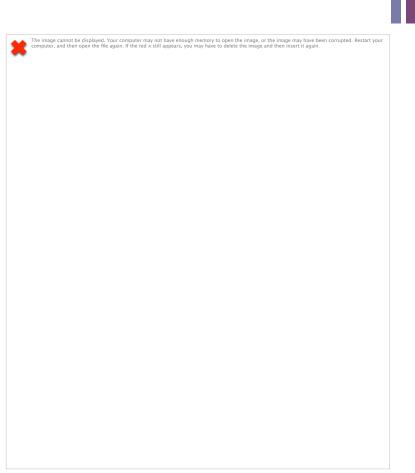


12:48 PM - 22 May 2014



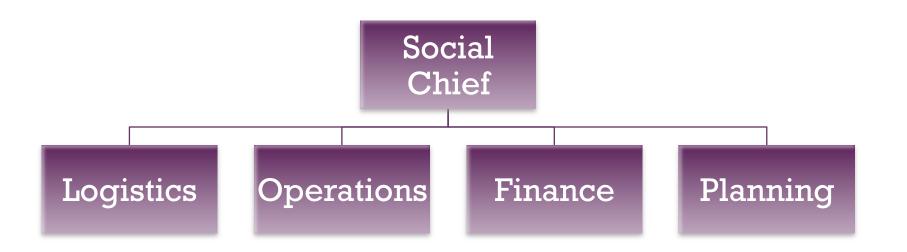
Numbers, more numbers

- Virginia Earthquake5,500 Tweets per second
- ■Sandy 20 Million tweets before, during and after the storm
- Media/Consumers learn at the same time





Tackle social media like a disaster





Creating a team and a framework

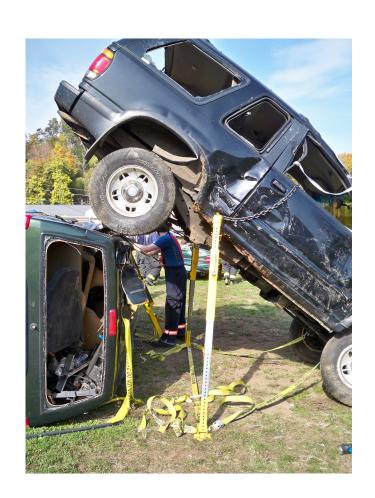
- Talk or touch?
- Have a rapid response plan
- Incorporate volunteers
- Establish ahead of time who does each job
- Have back-ups





Be prepared

- You must have a social media plan
- Brainstorm for the worst
- Create mock scenarios
- Drill, drill, drill





Don't believe me?





What is a crisis?

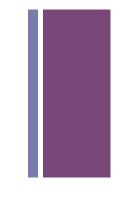


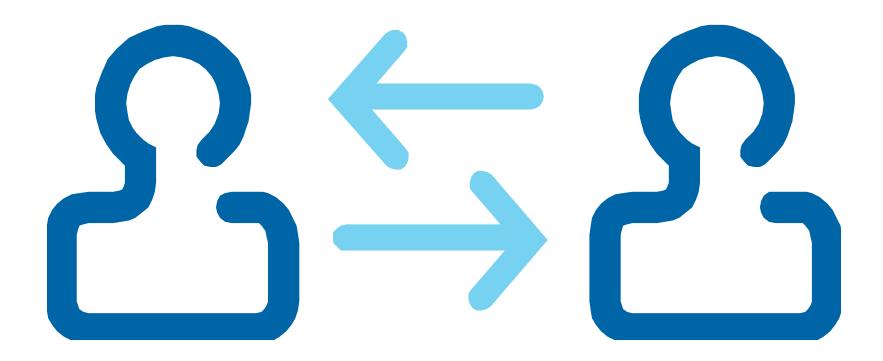


+ Or this?



Direct to consumers





+

Crisis triage

- Immediately size up the crisis.
- ■How big?
- ■How critical?
- ■How big can it get?

DECEASED

IMMEDIATE LIFE THREATENING INJURIES

DELAYED NON-LIFE THREATENING INJURIES

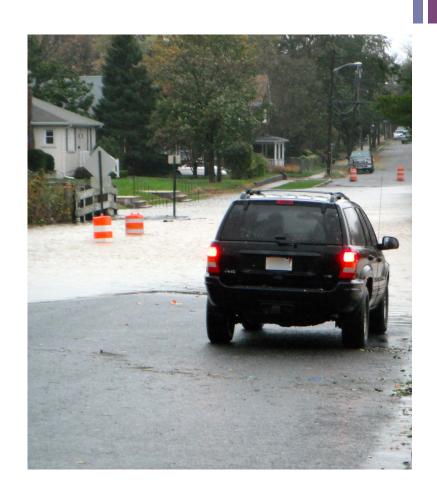
MINOR MINOR INJURIES

UNINJURED DOCUMENTED BY OFFICIAL

+

Develop a core message

- ■What do people need to know?
- ■What do they want them to know?
- ■What message do we need to send?
- How do we want them to behave?





@VolunteerIowa





Turn Around, Don't Drown



Retweeted 15 times



Austin Texas @austintexasgov · 1h

Remember floods break droughts. If water covers the road, don't take a chance

- turn around, don't drown! atxfloods.com

Collapse

♠ Reply ★ Retweet ★ Favorite ••• More

RETWEETS

FAVORITES

15

6













11:41 AM - 26 May 2014 · Details

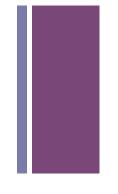


Create event specific #s

- Hashtags help Twitter users follow topics.
- Create one ahead of time and let followers know that's what they should follow. See if the state has created a universal #.
- ■#Sandy, #BostonMarathon, #CTEMSEXPO



Take control of the hashtag





Snohomish County @snocounty · Mar 22

We're sharing info about the slide on SR 530 with the hash tag #530slide. We'd love to track your info so please use the tag.

Collapse ◆ Reply ★ Retweet ★ Favorite ••• More

RETWEETS

FAVORITES

12















Getting key information out





Boston EMS



We urge everyone to comply with authorities, to shelter in place and not go near active scenes until further notice.

4/19/13, 8:08 AM

34 RETWEETS 4 FAVORITES

♠ ♣ ♣ ♦ ● ● ●



Alison @Musicalcatlover 939m
@BOSTON_EMS be careful & stay safe. Prayers from UK for you guys & all those affected.



Boston Marathon Bombings



CAPTURED!!! The hunt is over. The search is done. The terror is over. And justice has won. Suspect in custody.

4/19/13, 8:58 PM

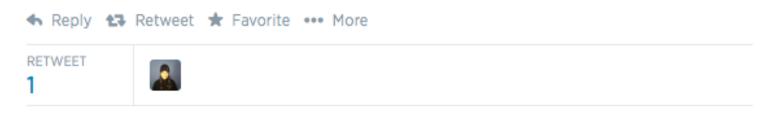








REPORT OF PERSON IN WATER AT 2700 S ASHLAND. CFD RESPONDING WILL UPDATE AS NECESSARY.



8:27 AM - 16 May 2014



A Force multiplier @FEMA 320,000+





Learn how to protect the outside of your property from disasters caused by natural hazards today, visit goo.gl/zZYdK6 #BSM!



12:12 PM - 21 May 2014



Force Multiplier – 79 RTs





FEMA @fema · May 21

Learn how to protect the outside of your property from disasters caused by natural hazards today, visit goo.gl/zZYdK6 #BSM!





Media outreach





Media Advisory: PGPD and @FBI to announce Increase in reward for information leading to arrest of Davon Wallace tinyurl.com/mn96tsl





Update residents on real info





ahfirstaid @ahfirstaid

11/2/12

Power crews from Ohio are working their way through @atlhlds #sandy pic.twitter.com/F9DsQPyr

ahfirstaid retweeted



NJ OEM @NJOEM2010

11/2/12

FEMA Comm. Rel. teams in NJ. Wearing blue shirts, FEMA logos, and FEMA Credentials. They don't need to enter your home, giving asst. info.

ahfirstaid retweeted



NYC Mayor's Office @NYCMayorsOffice

11/2/12

Sign up here to volunteer for #Sandy relief efforts: nycservice.org

+ Before the disaster hits

- ■Engage
- **■**Entertain
- **■**Inform
- Build a community
- ■Build a brand





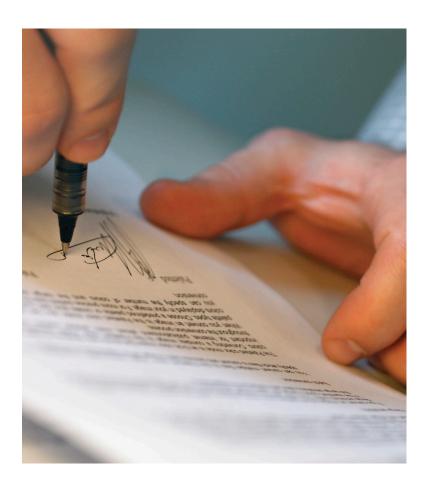
Not just disasters



- ■Information on classes
- When Santa will visit
- ■Parade times
- Health tips
- ■Safety tips



Getting started



- ■Team members
- Voice
- Getting the word out
- ■Set simple goals
- Support the programs



Create accounts



- Call them "official" accounts
- Include disclaimers in terms of times checked or not
- Include to call 911 for true emergencies
- Include links to other social media





Chicago Fire Media

@CFDMedia

Office of News Affairs, Chicago Fire Department. Tweets on this site are usable by media. Pictures may be used with attribution . FOR EMERGENCIES CALL 911

Chicago Illinois · cityofchicago.org

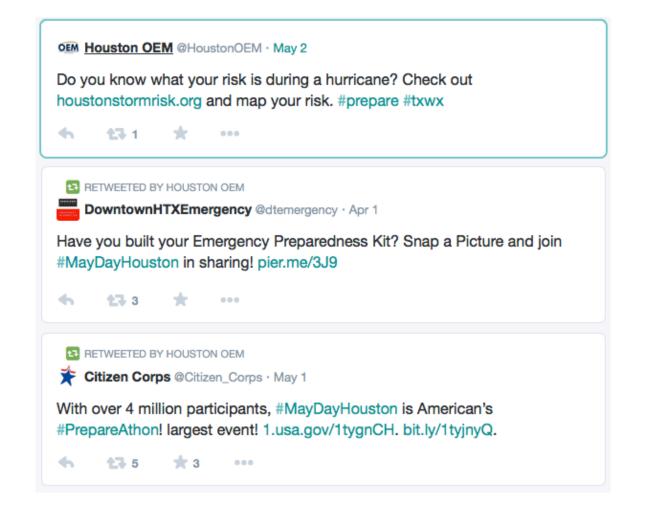


Montclair EMS





Houston OEMS





Houston OEMS



@HoustonOEM

Official information from the City of Houston Office of Emergency Management. Social media policies: j.mp

/OEMSocialMedia

- Houston, TX
- A houstonoem.org
- Soined April 2010



@BostonFire





Updates on routine information



Boston Fire Dept. @BostonFire

Feb 12

While shoveling hydrants in South Boston, recruits became aware of an elderly woman needing her car shoveled out. Glad to help

Expand



Tinton Falls OEMS

Tweets



Tinton Falls OEM @TintonFallsOEM · Apr 23

Drop off unused,unwanted,expired medications this Sat April 26 10a-2p @ TFPD 556 Tinton Ave. So these drugs are disposed of properly

Expand

◆ Reply ★ Retweet ★ Favorite ••• More



Tinton Falls OEM @TintonFallsOEM · Mar 10

Monmouth County Prosecutor-Heroin Awareness presentation on Wed.March 12th 7pm @ Monmouth Regional High Sshool. All are invited to attend.

Expand

◆ Reply ★ Retweet ★ Favorite ••• More



Tinton Falls OEM @TintonFallsOEM · Mar 3

Due to the winter weather event, the Tinton Falls Municipal Center offices will have a 2-hour delayed opening today. Offices open at 10:30am

Expand

◆ Reply ★ Retweet ★ Favorite ••• More



Become a source of info



- Stream of information
- ■FEMA, DHS, CDC
- Key Dates,October,Christmas,Holidays



Pass along relevant stories



Is this the house call of the future? Mass. Paramedics branch into home care bit.ly /1pFt8lh via @BostonGlobe

The Boston Globe

Paramedics branch into home care - The Boston Globe

Several Massachusetts ambulance companies plan to branch into home health care by dispatching paramedics to treat patients where they live instead of taking them to hospitals.

View on web



@BostonPolice



http://One Less Gun: Officers Arrest One and Recover One Illegal Firearm in Roxburybpdnews.com/news/2014/4/28...



Prepare for storms, events

Create preplanned
 messages for
 before and after
 the event

While it's too early to know the full impact of the storm, it's never a bad time to make sure you are prepared.

Set up templates

■Before the storm hits, take a moment to secure any items around your home that could be damaged by wind.

■Please stay tuned to local radio, TV and trusted social media sources for more information.



Twitter Alerts









Make your Tweets stand out.



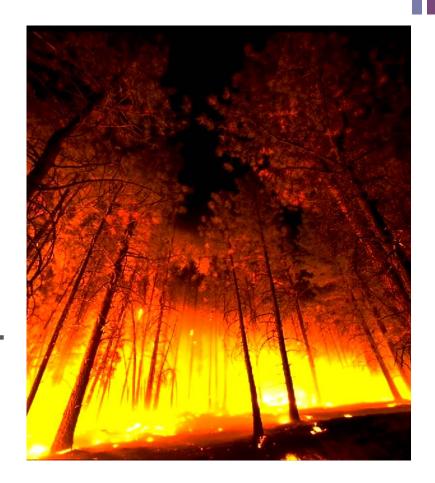
During disaster

- Stay in contact with OEM/
 IC
- Speak with consistent messages
- Retweet trusted information
- Monitor, monitor, monitor
- Be prepared for Tweets to be used by media
- Correct bad info



Seek Situational Information

Please tell us what's happening in your neighborhood





Reaching out



Volunteer Iowa @Volunteerlowa · Apr 29

Individuals wanting to help can click on the "Find a Volunteer Opportunity Now" link @ volunteeriowa.org. Please do not self deploy.

Collapse

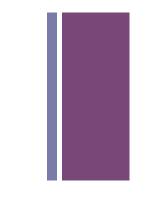
RETWEET

1 Retweet ★ Favorite ••• More

3:20 PM - 29 Apr 2014 · Details

By (c)Richard Huff - @RichmHuff - Pulse Check 2014







ahfirstaid @ahfirstaid

3 May

Only one in five adults are meeting @CDCGov guidelines for physical activity. Are you one of them? bit.ly/123Crpz

Collapse ← Reply 13 Retweet ★ Favorite *** More

11:02 AM - 3 May 13 · Details



@AHFIRSTAID



ahfirstaid @ahfirstaid · Dec 11

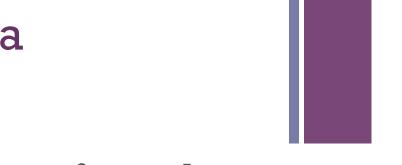
#Santa's pals at the AHFAS are gearing up for tonight's visit it Zone 3 starting at 6p. #Christmas pic.twitter.com/h4glPJKpp2



By (c)Richard Huff - @RichmHuff - Pulse Check 2014



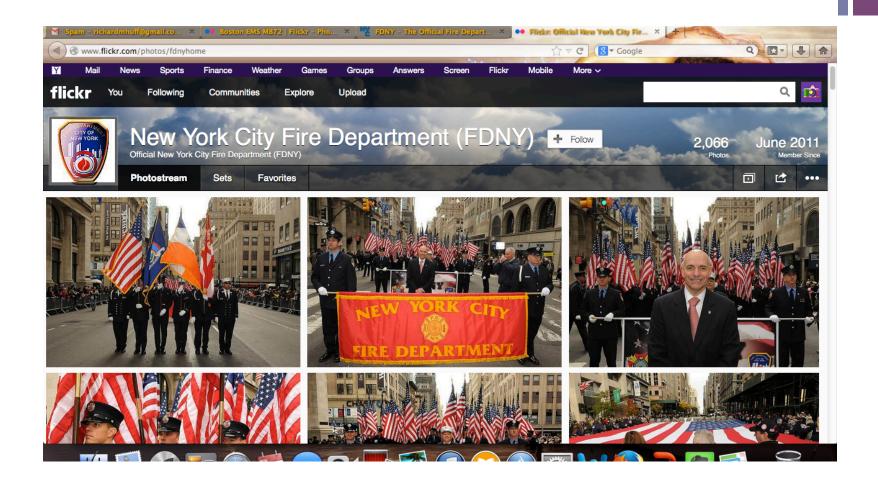
Benefits of social media



- ■Real-time situational reports from the field
- ■Good for business outreach
- ■Builds trust in the organization
- ■May save a life
- Can help stop rumors
- ■Direct connection to media

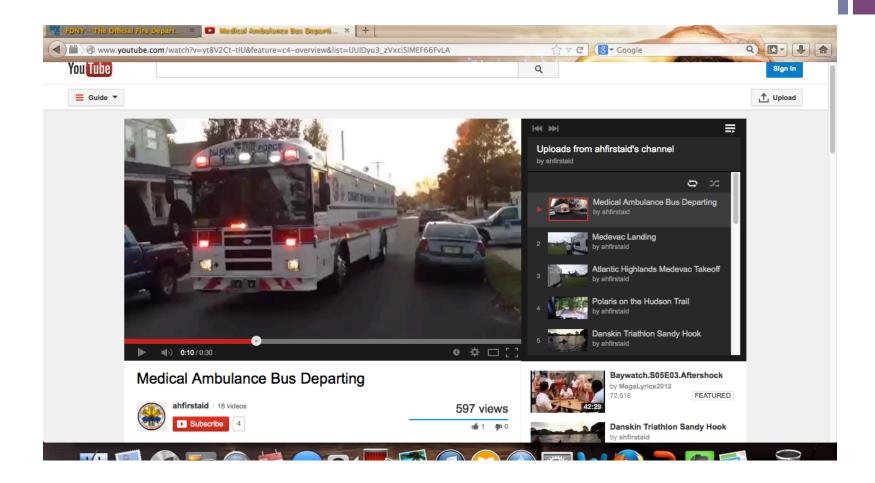


Flickr



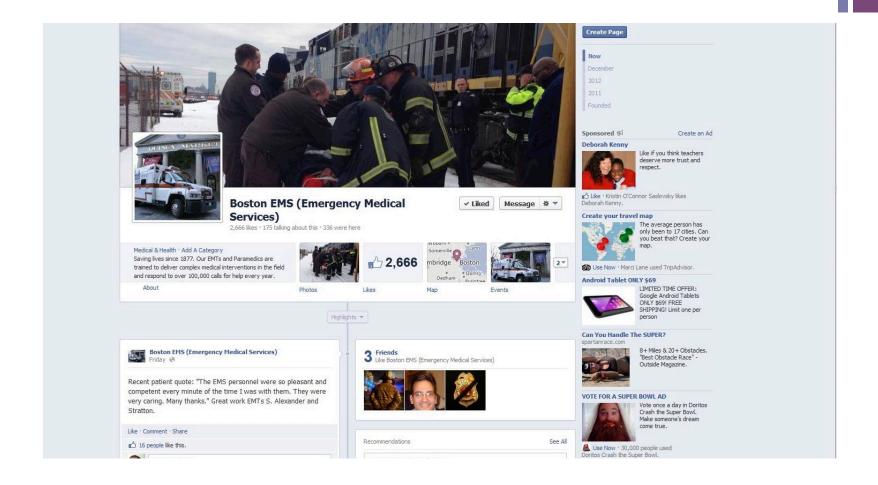
+

YouTube





Facebook



+ Instagram

- l billion photos already uploaded
- ■5 million daily uploads
- ■Short videos





Remain Active



- **■**Before
- During
- ■After



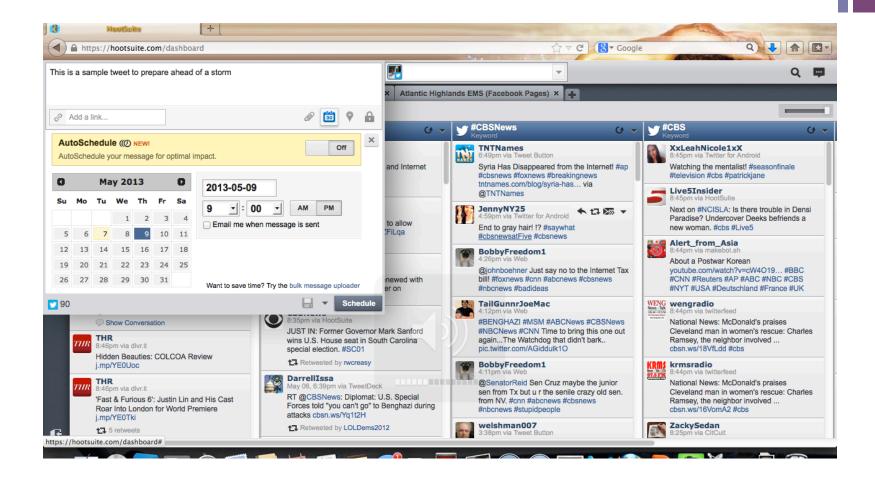
Monitor, monitor, monitor - react

- Red Cross monitoring center
- NASCAR
- **■** Every OEM
- Every Organization should have one
- Volunteers



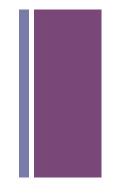


Hootsuite





What not to be





+ Pitfalls



- How many have social media policies?
- http://
 socialmediago
 vernance.com/
 policies.php

Create a policy

- ■Be transparent
- ■Think twice before posting
- ■No inappropriate pictures
- ■No organization details
- Create something of value
- ■Not while in rig



+ It's all fun and games until someone gets hurt





Correcting media info



Snohomish County @snocounty · Mar 25

To correct @KING5Seattle story: We ARE NOT asking volunteers to come to Darrington to help with #530slide search. Do not continue to share

12:04 AM - 25 Mar 2014 · Details



Fluid and dynamic









NYPD NEWS @NYPDnews · 2h

Do you have a photo w/ a member of the NYPD? Tweet us & tag it #myNYPD. It may be featured on our Facebook. pic.twitter.com/mE2c3oSmm6





+Oh no



Boz @purrenergy · Apr 24 #myNYPD providing free chiropractic services for homeless pic.twitter.com/9lki2XakMX" What's wrong w this pic? All the people standing still.





Plan of attack



- Create a team
- Create the messages
- Test the system
- Get inspired by what others do
- Learn from other's mistakes
- Experiment





- ■Richardmhuff@gmail.com
- www.facebook.com/richardmhuff
- ■@richmhuff