



McChrystal Group



After-Action Review of Alert Notification Systems and Evacuation Policies for the Eaton and Palisades Fires

Amendment #1 May 2026

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Amendment

McChrystal Group has reviewed and followed up on additional information uncovered through a separate and subsequent investigation by Citygate Associates, LLC, that was conducted to further look into the communications between field staff and Unified Command staff as noted below and found on page 81 of the McChrystal Group After-Action Review of Alert Notification Systems and Evacuation Policies for the Eaton and Palisades Fire (AAR). This additional information consisted of a text string sent at 11:30 PM and 11:32 PM on January 7, 2025, from field staff to Unified Command staff. Given this information, McChrystal Group conducted a follow-up interview and prepared this amendment to the AAR to reflect this factual update. This amendment does not change any findings or recommendations of the AAR.

The paragraph noted on page 81 of the AAR is amended to read as follows:

“LACoFD staff in the field in Altadena also recalls suggesting to Unified Command staff a little before 12:00 AM on January 8 that due to the high winds, evacuation orders should go out for the foothills of Altadena, all the way to La Canada. Unified Command staff does not recall this occurring, and the fire front for the Eaton Fire was not moving west into those areas at that time (see Appendix 12: Fire Front Progression). The call referenced occurred at 11:23 PM on January 7, 2025, and subsequent text messages sent by field staff shortly after at 11:30 PM and 11:32 PM to Unified Command, noted only two zones, SMD E002 and E003, to be evacuated "all along the foothill" without any reference to Altadena or La Canada. The two identified zones had also received evacuation orders earlier in the night. The text messages do not confirm that evacuation orders for the foothills of Altadena to La Canada were discussed. What is clear, however, is that there were a multitude of issues that both Unified Command and field staff ~~was~~ were dealing with caused by the catastrophic wind-driven fire, and the additional concerns raised by JPL during this same time frame of the potential risk of the Eaton Fire burning to their facility with potentially catastrophic impacts across the San Gabriel Valley.”