

Subject: **State Office of Emergency Services Terminology For Evacuations**

August 2020 - The State Office of Emergency Services released new terminology for evacuations, which will help ensure quicker and safer evacuations. There will no longer be terms such as Voluntary or Mandatory evacuations.

These changes have been adopted by the LA County Fire Department, LA County Sheriff, LAPD, LAFD and Ventura County. The graphic below via the City of Calabasas shows what the new changes are.”

EVACUATION TERMINOLOGY	
Evacuation Order	Immediate threat to life. This is a lawful order to leave now. The area is lawfully closed to public access.
Evacuation Warning	Potential threat to life and/or property. Those who require additional time to evacuate, and those with pets and livestock should leave now.
Shelter in Place	Go indoors. Shut and lock doors and windows. Prepare to self-sustain until further notice and/or contacted by emergency personnel for additional direction.
Evacuation Order(s) Lifted	The formal announcement of lifting evacuations in an area currently under evacuation.
Hard Closure	Closed to all traffic except Fire and Law Enforcement.
Soft Closure	Closed to all traffic except Fire and Law Enforcement and critical incident resources.
Resident Only Closure	Soft Closure with the additional allowance of residents and local government agencies assisting with response and recovery.