

How to Navigate the Chaos of the Day

Dale Buckner, CEO, Global Guardian

As 2020 continues to unfold, health, safety and security plans remain at the forefront of discussion as the world aims to return to some level of “normalcy”. Chief Executive Officer, Dale Buckner, focuses in on three particular areas of concern:

1 THE FUTURE OF TRAVEL

As some countries successfully stem the spread of COVID-19 within their borders, international travel is slowly opening back up. With that, many questions remain outstanding: Will my temperature be taken at the airport? Am I required to wear a face mask in-flight? Do I have to quarantine upon arrival to my destination? Although many questions still remain, many of the practices that were “theory” only weeks ago are now “reality”, allowing international travelers some clarity on what they can expect moving forward.

2 THE PERFECT STORM: HURRICANE SEASON 2020 + COVID-19

The beginning of June marked the start of the hurricane season for the Atlantic Basin (Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico), which lasts until December, peaking from mid-August to late October. There is a consensus in the meteorological community that this year’s hurricane season will feature above average storm activity as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center predicts a 60 percent chance of an above-normal season.

After a near miss last year with Category 5 Hurricane Dorian – which devastated the Bahamas – the communities in the Atlantic Basin will be confronted with a dual threat – a natural disaster amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The NOAA estimates the damage from the 2017 Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria at \$265 billion. Federal, state, and local resources are already under logistical and budgetary strain combating the pandemic. While COVID-19 is currently showing some signs of abatement, the specter of a second wave in the fall will coincide with the peak of Atlantic hurricane season, adding yet another layer of complexity to hurricane response planning in an environment already challenged by complicated logistics and limited resources.

3 CURRENT SECURITY SITUATION – WHAT’S NEXT?

The COVID-19 pandemic has thus far killed over 120,000 Americans and left more than 40 million Americans unemployed and millions more lacking work or furloughed. On top of this unprecedented health and economic crisis are nationwide protests following the deaths of George Floyd in late May and Rayshard Brooks in early June. Although the protests have been largely peaceful, violent unrest in several cities has already led to millions of dollars in property damage. What’s next for America?