



# Leaders Invitation - Casualty Assistance Program (CAP) & Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM)

## Purpose

During the morning and/or night briefing, a leader/team member such as the AA/IC/HRSP/Safety/MEDL/PIO could deliver these remarks introducing the topic and resource for the theme of the day (or couple of days). The presenter should summarize and deliver the intent and invitation to materials in IAP and info board poster.

## What is CAP?

The Forest Service Casualty Assistance Program ensures that employees and their families are supported after an accident or injury. Under this program, the Forest Service takes a coordinated approach to assist employees, their families, and the larger interagency community following a casualty (while people usually associate the term “casualty” with death, casualty support can also refer to support the Forest Service provides after a serious injury or illness). Along with providing support, the program promotes individual and collective resilience. It ensures that services and benefits are offered in a time of need such as: Hospital Liaison, Family Liaison, Funerals and Memorials, Survivor Benefits, and Honor Guard and Honor Watch.

## What is CISM?

The Critical Incident Stress Management Program provides crisis intervention techniques and trained peer support to assist employees after a critical injury or fatality. This program also assists with preparing agency personnel about traumatic stress with training and education.

## What to discuss at morning briefing?

The intent is that leaders share what the Casualty Assistance Program and Critical Incident Stress Management Program is and how these programs serve not only employees, but their families and coworkers. Those of us supporting the greater mission in fire practice and plan for incidents within an incident, but may be unaware of the programs that are currently in place and supported with an interagency approach. The common goal of both programs is to take care of our employees and those impacted on their worst day.

Be aware, each interagency partner may handle serious injuries and fatalities different but come together to serve the community when needed. For further information to prepare to brief on an incident, please refer to the QR code and external link below.

## Resources



QR code links to the USFS National Casualty Assistance Program  
[Casualty Assistance Program | US Forest Service \(usda.gov\)](#)  
[Critical Incident Stress Management Peer Support | US Forest Service \(usda.gov\)](#)

