

**Department of Public Safety (DPS)
Highway Patrol Division
ADOT - Traffic Operations Center**



Sergeant John Paul Cartier

**Officer Robb Brown
Officer Daniel Williams**

Dust Storms

Public Safety Response to Adverse Weather Conditions

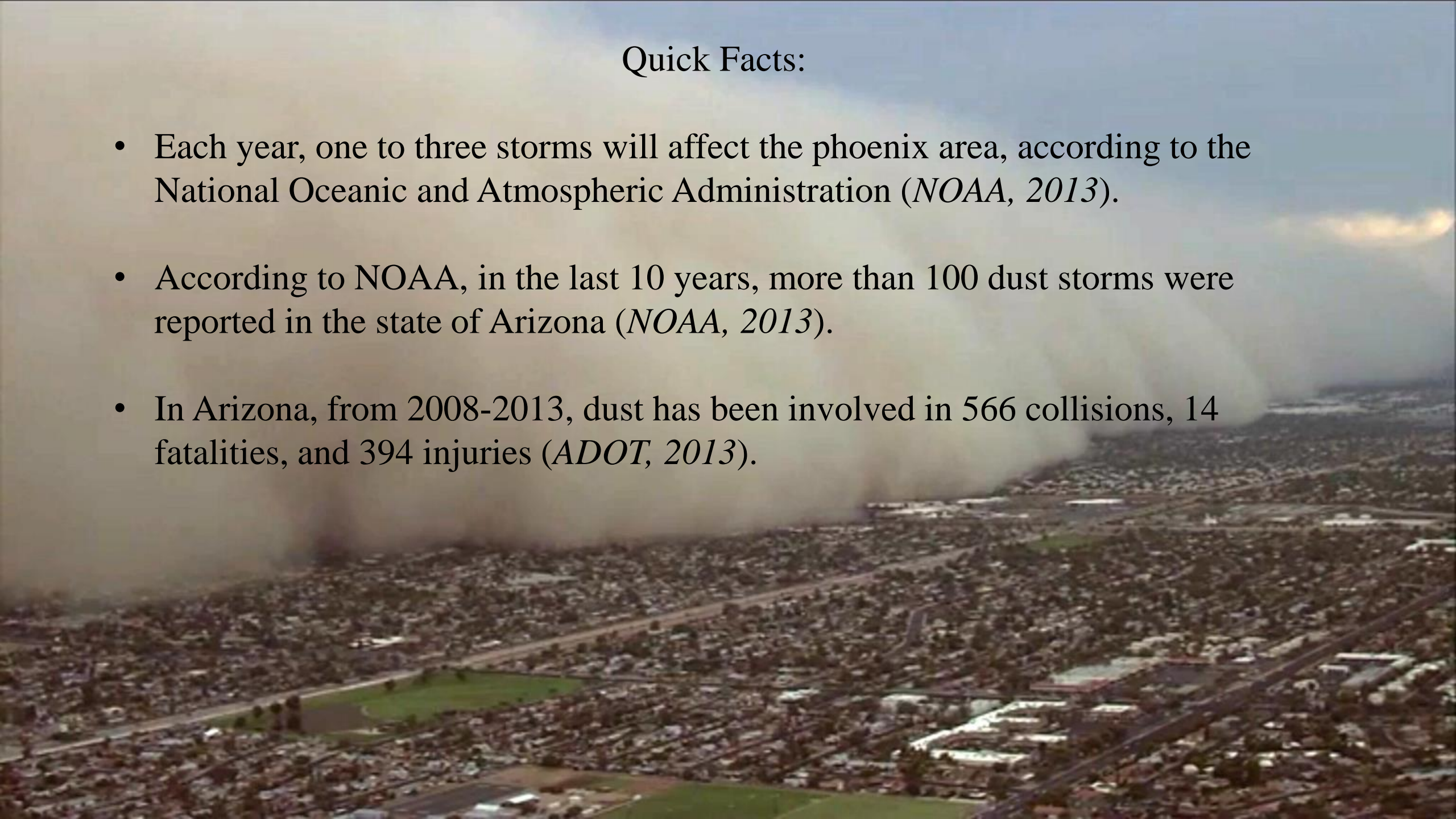


Definition of Dust Storm:

A meteorological phenomenon common in arid and semi-arid regions that arise when strong winds blow loose sand and dirt from a dry surface area.

Quick Facts:

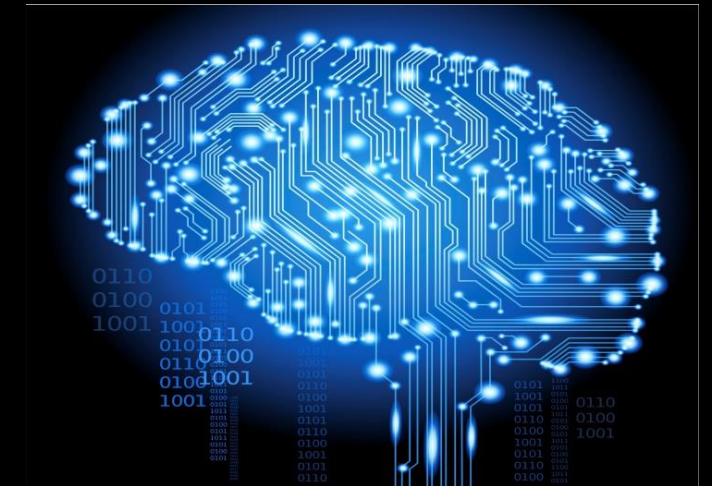
- Each year, one to three storms will affect the phoenix area, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (*NOAA, 2013*).
- According to NOAA, in the last 10 years, more than 100 dust storms were reported in the state of Arizona (*NOAA, 2013*).
- In Arizona, from 2008-2013, dust has been involved in 566 collisions, 14 fatalities, and 394 injuries (*ADOT, 2013*).



Traffic Operations Center's Function



- Reduce traffic congestion and secondary collisions
- Monitor active incidents and mobilize effective responses faster
- Camera Verification of incidents
- Reduce response times of first responders
- DPS CAD access
- Timely updates to police, fire and other first responders
- Point of Contact (First Responders, Media, Public)



DPS Strategies to mitigate the inherent dangers of dust storms:

- Notify Support Agencies
 - ✓ ADOT (TOC, ALERT)
 - ✓ Local Law Enforcement
 - ✓ Fire
 - ✓ EMS
- Rolling Traffic Breaks
- Class A or B Roadblocks
 - ✓ Traffic Control
 - ✓ Full or Partial Road Closures



Public Awareness – Media Resources

- Dynamic Messaging Boards

- AZDOT.gov and AZ511.gov



- Press Releases
 - ✓ Radio
 - ✓ Television

- Social Media (e.g., Twitter, Facebook)
 - ✓ DPS and ADOT PIO's

Motoring Public's Response:

1. **DO NOT** enter a dust storm!
2. Pull off the pavement as far as possible and turn off lights.
3. Go slow, with lights and sound horn periodically.
4. **DO NOT** stop in the roadway!
5. Check local media to determine safe travel routes.
(Radio, Internet, Weather Apps, 511, etc.)



Contact Information

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Officer Robb Brown
Officer Daniel Williams

DPS TOC Office #602-712-7688

Social Media Contacts

Twitter Account: Twitter.com @Arizona
DOT

Facebook: Search Arizona Department
of Transportation or
Facebook.com/AZDOT

www.AZDOT.GOV

www.AZ511.gov



Traffic Operations Center

Location

2302 West Durango Street Phoenix, Arizona

Control Room Telephone

602-257-1563

DPS Control Room Console

602-712-6217

PIO Control Room Desk

602-712-6512

An aerial photograph of a city at night, likely Los Angeles, with a massive, dark, billowing plume of smoke or ash rising from the left side of the frame. The city lights are visible in the foreground and middle ground, and the plume extends towards the top of the image. The word "Questions?" is overlaid in the center of the image.

Questions?