

# **RI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY 2009 HURRICANE CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIO'S**



## **DHS/FEMA HEADQUARTERS - MARTY BAHAMONDE**

Marty Bahamonde serves as the Senior Policy Advisor for FEMA's Office of External Affairs. In this role, he advises senior leadership in the development of policies, plans and operational procedures on major emergency management issues.

Mr. Bahamonde joined FEMA in 1993 and over the past 16 years has been involved in more than 50 disaster operations during his career with the agency.

Mr. Bahamonde has served in or led many external affairs operations of a national significance for the agency. In 2005, The Department of Homeland Security tapped him to lead the external affairs operations in the Gulf Coast region following Hurricane Katrina. Following that he co-authored the standard operating procedures for Emergency Support 15 (ESF 15).

Mr. Bahamonde has also served as the agency's national spokesperson on many high-profile response operations, most recently Hurricane Ike in 2008.

In 2004 he was honored with the FEMA Director's Award for his work on several national response operations including his role as the sole public affairs official on the U.S. response efforts to the Bam, Iran Earthquake which drew world wide media attention on the agency.

Prior to joining FEMA, Mr. Bahamonde was a television news anchor and reporter for eight years at various stations around the country. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Radio/TV Communications from Southern Illinois University and a Masters degree in Physical Therapy from the University of Puget Sound.

## **NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE – MATTHEW BELK**

Matthew Belk graduated with a B.S. in Meteorology from the Pennsylvania State University in 1993. A Massachusetts native, he has worked for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Weather Service (NWS) since 1992. He has worked at the Ohio River Forecast Center in Cincinnati, OH (1992) as a computer modeler. He has also been stationed at many field weather forecast offices including: Erie PA (1993-1995), Charleston WV (1995-2001) and Taunton MA (2001-present). His current duties as a Senior Forecaster involve providing public, aviation, marine and fire weather forecasts and warnings for portions of four New England states. He also works in partnership with federal, state and local emergency management to respond to weather hazards. In his role as Hurricane Program Leader for the NWS in Taunton, he works to educate a variety of groups; from emergency managers, to insurance interests to civic organizations; about the hazards associated with hurricanes in southern New England.

#### **DHS/FEMA REGION I – IVY FRANCES**

Chief, Floodplain Management and Insurance Branch, FEMA: Ivy has over 8 years experience with FEMA in the Mitigation Division. Prior to this position she worked for the City of Portland, Oregon, as a Manager of the Stormwater Infrastructure and Watershed Planning Division. She has responded to numerous disasters included most recently for Long Term Community Recovery, Hurricane Ike in Texas and Hurricane Katrina to assist the City of New Orleans in 2005. Currently she is working on the Town of Fort Kent Recovery Plan.

#### **DHS/FEMA REGION I – HOLLY DOMINIE**

Holly Dominie, of Readfield, Maine, is a FEMA reservist currently assisting the Town of Fort Kent, Maine in long term community recovery planning. She also serves as a mitigation specialist and tribal specialist for FEMA Region 1. In addition, she has 32 years of professional land use planning and policy experience working for state, federal, and regional governments and as a consultant to communities, organizations, businesses, and state agencies.

#### **LOWES – HENRY VERDUCCI**

Store Manager, Lowe's of North Warwick, RI: Henry has been with Lowes for over 5 years and Store Manager for the past 2 years, working up from a specialist and holding several key positions such as Assistant Store Manager, Sales Manager, and Operations Manager. Previously Henry was a self-employed owner of a jewelry manufacturer in North Providence. Henry currently resides in Scituate, Rhode Island with his wife and three children.

#### **LOWES – JEFF STUDLEY**

Store Manager, Lowe's of Warwick, RI: Jeff has been with Lowes for 2 years, the first 6 months as a Store Manager Trainee. After completing the training program Jeff was assigned as the Store Manager of our Warwick, RI location. Before coming to Lowe's Jeff spent twenty years with Shaw's Supermarkets in capacities such as Loss Prevention, Management trainee, Assistant Store Manager and Store Manager. Jeff currently resides in Coventry Rhode Island with his wife and three children.

#### **LOWES – GLENN McGRATH**

District Manager (RI, MA and CT): Glenn has worked for Lowe's for 23 years and has been in New England as a District Manager for the past 4 years. Prior duties at Lowe's include being a Store Manager for 12 years. As a Store Manager, Glenn has worked in markets that were directly impacted by hurricanes, including Hurricanes Fran and Hugo that severely damaged communities in North Carolina. Glenn is a graduate of Louisburg College in Louisburg, NC and currently resides in the suburban Boston area his wife and son.

#### **EAD & ASSOCIATES – BRUCE McFARLANE**

Bruce A. McFarlane, Sr retired from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Departmental Administration Office of Operations, USDA TARGET Center in 2008. The TARGET Center is the accessible technology training center for USDA employees with disabilities. In his position at the Department of Agriculture, he developed accessible emergency management solutions for the Department and has previously served as a Special Needs Advisor to the Incident Commander for the USDA Emergency Response Team. Since his retirement from the USDA, he has consulted with EAD Associates, an emergency management consultancy agency. As a boutique firm, EAD's mission and philosophy is to support an equal split annually of for profit work coupled with pro bono hours to demonstrate their commitment as professionals to our areas of expertise.

#### **R.I. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH – KATE McCARTHY-BARNETT**

Kate McCarthy-Barnett is the Disability & Health Program Manager for the RI Department of Health. In this position, Dr. McCarthy-Barnett is responsible for the coordination of emergency preparedness initiatives for individuals with disabilities, chronic conditions and special healthcare needs. She serves on the RI Emergency Management Advisory Council and Co-Chairs the statewide Emergency Management Special Needs Workgroup. She also serves as a Commissioner to the Governor's Commission on Disabilities, Chair of the GCOD Accessibility Committee, Vice Chair of the Office of Rehabilitation Services State Advisory Council and Co-Chair of the State Planning Committee. She has authored numerous articles on disability issues and is active in special needs and emergency preparedness initiatives at the state and national level.

#### **UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND – KERRI A. HICKS**

Kerri A. Hicks grew up in a family of first-responders. She has spent the last two decades communicating professionally, first as a writer and editor in the mass media -- including Providence Business News and Rhode Island Monthly -- and more recently as a web and online developer at Brown University and the University of Rhode Island.

#### **DHS/FEMA REGION I - JEAN A. McDONOUGH**

Jean joined FEMA in 2003 as a Financial Management Specialist and has spent the last 3 years as an Emergency Management Program Specialist within the Public Assistance division. She has deployed to numerous federally declared disasters, including the four 2007 Florida declarations, the Oklahoma ice storms, Hurricane Katrina and numerous New England flooding declarations. Prior to joining FEMA Jean spent 25 years in the financial services industry, most recently as a Vice President of Operations at Morgan Stanley. Jean holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and MBA degree from Suffolk University.

#### **PHILLIPS & JORDAN – KEN GRAHAM**

Incident Management Group Program Manager: With over 20 years of administrative and leadership in the US Marine Corps, 4 years heavy construction experience, and 8 years of disaster recovery experience Ken can fill key roles in both project administration and crew management. Ken is also responsible for the Mobile Command and Communication Unit (tractor/trailer) based in North Carolina.

#### **R.I. NATIONAL GUARD - BRIGADIER GENERAL BRIAN G. GOODWIN**

Assistant Adjutant General - Army Guard - Brigadier General Goodwin (BG) is the Assistant Adjutant General/Deputy Commanding General for the Rhode Island Army National Guard. He is responsible for assisting the Adjutant General in formulating, developing and coordinating all programs, policies and plans affecting the Rhode Island Army National Guard and its more than 2100 citizen soldiers. BG Goodwin represents the Adjutant General and the Army National Guard in a variety of forums including all National Guard Matters, Federal and State liaison, five Colonel(06) Commands, Congressional liaison and National Guard Bureau matters.

#### **R. I. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY – JOSEPH COURNOYER**

After a career in not-for-profit management and program development, Joe Cournoyer is now enjoying his work as an Individual Assistance Officer for the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency. Joe is responsible for a variety of plan development projects, coordinating efforts with partners from the private, non-profit and public sectors.

#### **RHODE ISLAND INSURANCE DIVISION - PAULA M. PALLOZZI**

Chief Property & Casualty Insurance Rate Analyst: Paula is a 1982 graduate of the University of Rhode Island, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration, Accounting. She graduated Cum Laude and was a member of Beta Alpha Psi, Accounting Honor Society. Paula is a member of the Insurance Regulatory Examiners Society. Paula has been employed by the State of Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation, Insurance Division since 1982. She started her career at DBR as a Licensing Insurance Examiner and received several promotions through the years. She was appointed Chief, Property & Casualty Insurance Rate Analyst in 1997. She is currently responsible for the work of a unit engaged in the regulation of property & casualty & workers' compensation insurance including the review of policy forms and rates, complaint handling, investigating unauthorized insurance activities and unfair claims settlement practices to ensure compliance with state insurance laws and regulations. Paula also serves as a co-hearing officer in rate hearings and an advisor to the hearing panel for administrative complaint hearings and the promulgation of regulations. She also assists in the drafting, preparation, testimony, and implementation of legislation, regulations and bulletins. Paula currently serves as a designee/member of the Governor's Insurance Council-Coastal SubGroup, the RI Automobile Service Plan, the RI Joint Reinsurance Association, Workers' Compensation Advisory Council, Special Joint Commission to Study the Underground Economy and Employee Misclassification, and the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board. Paula is married with two children.

## **RHODE ISLAND STATE POLICE – LT. DARREN H. DELANEY**

Lt. Darren H. Delaney has been a member of the Rhode Island State Police for 23 years. Lt. Delaney has served at every patrol Barracks in the State and the Detective Division. He has an extensive back ground in teaching in a variety of topics. In his current position as the Operations Officer he is in charge of and responsible for certifying the operational readiness and preparedness of the Division's Special services, which includes the following units: Canine Unit, Marine Unit, Dive Team, Motorcycle Unit, Honor Guard Unit, Tactical Unit and Crisis Negotiation Unit. The Operations Officer is also responsible for statewide activations of AMBER Alert and the search for Missing Persons under the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) for the State of Rhode Island. In addition, the Operations Officer serves on several committees such as the Rhode Island Incident Management Task Force, Medical Emergency Distribution System Working Group, Hurricane Evacuation Working Group, Emergency Management Advisory Council, Home Land Security Working Group, Weapons of Mass Destruction Working Group and Rhode Island Task Force 2, Wilderness Search and Rescue.

## **R.I. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY – MICHELLE BURNETT**

Michelle Burnett, CFM joined the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA) in May 2008. As the Rhode Island State Floodplain Coordinator, Michelle is involved in all aspects of floodplain management and is responsible for working directly with communities to help implement their floodplain management regulations. She has almost 10 years of experience dealing with environmental issues. Michelle currently sits on the Board of Directors for the Rhode Island Flood Mitigation Association (RIFMA) and recently became the seventh Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) in Rhode Island. Michelle is also an active member of the Association of State Floodplain Managers Inc. (ASFPM). Originally from New York, Michelle received her Bachelors Degree in Marine Biology and Masters in Marine Affairs and Coastal Policy, both from the University of Rhode Island.

## **R.I. URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE – BILL McKENNA**

Task Force Leader - He is a member of the committee that developed the RIUSAR organization. Assistant Chief, Cranston Fire Department. 30yrs. with the department.

## **R.I. URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE – DAVID GRANDPRE**

Post disaster evaluations of Structures - Structural Specialist Forensic Structural Engineer, CA Pretzer Associates, Cranston Architects and Engineers Emergency Response Task Force - Co-Chairman

Mr. Grandpre has performed building condition inspections in FL, MI, LA, TX, and Puerto Rico following hurricanes. He has also investigated damage to buildings following explosions in Danvers, MA; Somerset, MA; Warwick, RI, Boston, MA, and Colchester, CT. He will give a brief presentation on the Engineering assets available to RIEMA following a local disaster.

## **R.I. URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE – JOHN CAGNO**

Rescue Operations Manager - John has been a firefighter since 1978. Presently he is a Captain on the North Providence Fire Department. Rescue Specialist for Federal USAR Team MATF-1 in Beverly Massachusetts. Captain Cagno has responded to many large scale natural and manmade disasters including the World Trade Center on 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina.