



NEWS RELEASE

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25th ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S HURRICANE CONFERENCE HONORS AWARD RECIPIENTS

~ Recognized for contributions to Preparedness and Response Efforts for Florida's Residents ~

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL– Florida Division of Emergency Management Director Bryan Koon and participants at the 25th Annual Governor's Hurricane Conference today gathered at a luncheon in downtown Fort Lauderdale at the Greater Fort Lauderdale / Broward County Convention Center to honor 14 award recipients for their various contributions towards preparedness and response efforts during 2010, at both the state and local level.

The Governor's Award - presented to Leslie Henderson, President and CEO of the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes - FLASH® for her outstanding leadership and commitment to create demand for stronger, safer homes in Florida and across the nation, through groundbreaking public awareness, professional education, policy initiatives and private and public sector partnerships.

The Distinguished Service Award - presented to Betti Johnson, Principal Planner, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council for her career of outstanding and pioneering efforts in hurricane preparedness, evacuation and recovery and her status as one of the foremost planners in the nation.

The Lifetime Achievement Award - presented to Guy Daines, Vice President of the Governor's Hurricane Conference® for an outstanding career of unsurpassed devotion to the mission of hurricane preparedness and response in Florida and the nation.

The Emergency Management Award - presented to Irene Toner, Director, Monroe County Emergency Management for her outstanding leadership, knowledge, decision making and vision in hurricane planning, response and recovery for the citizens of Monroe County.

The Corporate Award - presented to Joe Tankersly, Imagineer, Walt Disney World Company for an innovative approach in helping Floridians become more proactive in strengthening their homes and protecting their families.



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The Corporate Award - presented to Tropical Shipping for their extraordinary efforts in hurricane preparedness through educational forums, legislative initiatives and private and public partnerships and initiatives.

The Dick Fletcher Media Award - presented to The Times-Union for its longstanding dedication to the preparation and dissemination of vital hurricane preparedness information to the citizens of Northeast Florida.

The Chad Reed First Responder Award – presented to Randal Bengston, Director, Hendry County Public Safety for his exceptional dedication to hurricane preparedness and response for the citizens of Hendry County.

The Public Education / Public Information Award - presented to Pinellas County Communications for *eTown Hall: Surviving the Storm 2010 Event*, with appreciation for a unique educational program, utilizing emerging technologies that broaden the awareness of hurricane preparedness for the citizens of Pinellas County.

The American Red Cross Award – presented to Eleanor Morgan, Leadership Volunteer, Manatee County Chapter for her longstanding commitment to serving those affected by hurricanes throughout the state of Florida and the nation.

The Tropical Meteorology Award – presented to David Sharp, Science and Operations Officer, National Weather Service Forecast Office, Melbourne, Florida for his outstanding contributions, vision and leadership in revolutionizing tropical cyclone product information for the citizens of Florida.

Al Bragg Government Leadership Award – presented to Judi Kennington-Korf, Hendry County Administrator for her outstanding and tireless support to the citizens of Hendry County and for her leadership and direction in securing funding and property for a new Emergency Operations Center.

The Legislative Award – presented to The Honorable Carey Baker, Florida Senate for his leadership and efforts as a champion of hurricane preparedness measures during his tenure in the Florida Senate.

The Special Achievement Award – presented to Anestoria Shalkowski, Governor's Hurricane Conference® Volunteer, with grateful appreciation for her many years of enthusiastic and extraordinary commitment as a volunteer for the Governor's Hurricane Conference®.

For additional information about this year's conference and silver anniversary, visit www.flghc.org.

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