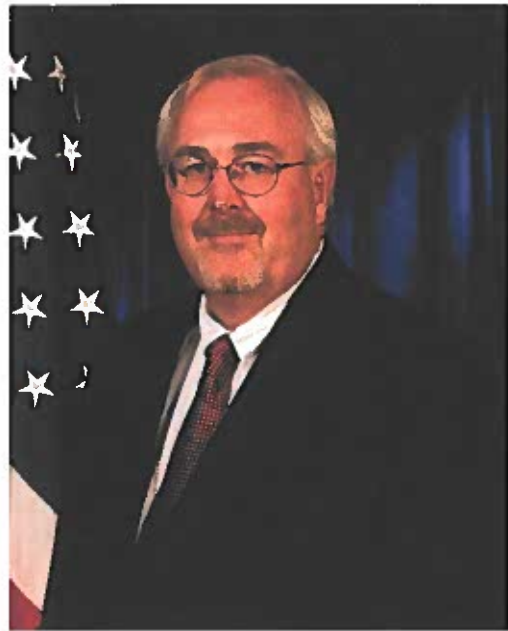


W. Craig Fugate

Former Administrator

Federal Emergency Management Agency



W. Craig Fugate served as President Barack Obama's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Administrator from 2009-17.

Fugate led FEMA through multiple record-breaking disaster years and oversaw the federal government's response to major events such as the Joplin and Moore tornadoes, Hurricane Sandy, Hurricane Matthew, and the 2016 Louisiana flooding.

During his tenure, Fugate focused not only on restoring FEMA's response capabilities but on promoting emergency management as a community and shared responsibility. Fugate instituted a permanent effort to build the nation's capacity to stabilize a catastrophic event within 72 hours. He drove completion of presidential policy on national preparedness and implemented the National Preparedness System to build unity of effort to address the nation's most significant risks.

Under Fugate's leadership, FEMA fostered a balanced, community-oriented approach to emergency management that builds sustainable and resilient communities before and after disaster strikes. Fugate oversaw a dramatic increase in online registration for federal disaster assistance through a streamlined, single front-door portal. He also directed the creation of a FEMA app that enables FEMA response efforts through public reporting functionality, supports individuals and families with preparedness tips and hazard alerts, and helps survivors access FEMA assistance when disaster strikes.

From 2001-09, he served as Florida Gov. Jeb Bush's emergency management director. In 2004, Fugate managed the largest federal disaster response in Florida history as four major hurricanes - Charley, Frances, Ivan and Jeanne - impacted the state in quick succession. In 2005, Florida was again impacted by major disasters when three more hurricanes - Dennis, Katrina, and Wilma - made landfall in the state.

Under Fugate's stewardship, Florida's emergency management program became the first statewide program in the nation to receive full accreditation from the Emergency Management Accreditation Program.

In 2016, Fugate received the National Emergency Management Association's Lacy E. Suiter Award for lifetime achievements and contributions in the field of emergency management.

Fugate and his wife Sheree hail from Gainesville, Fla.

Jonathan Lord

Emergency Management Chief

Emergency Management, Flagler County

Jonathan Lord joined Flagler County in January 2018 as Emergency Management Chief, following two and a half years as the Deputy Director of the Florida Division of Emergency Management. He has worked in the public safety field since 1993, serving in progressively responsible emergency management roles within Florida starting in 2004.

Lord's experience in emergency management includes a variety of roles at the county level, including serving as the Division/Deputy Director of the Miami-Dade County Office of Emergency Management. During his time in state and local emergency management, he served in various leadership roles, including Deputy State Coordinating Officer for Hurricanes Hermine, Matthew, and Irma; Deputy Incident Commander for the EOC Activations for the 2010 Haitian Earthquake Repatriation; 2010 NFL Pro Bowl and Super Bowl; 2011 Hurricane Irene, and Tropical Storm Emily; 2012 Tropical Storm Isaac; and serving as with Planning Section Chief or Public Safety Branch Director for eight additional tropical weather events going back to 2004.



Prior to entering the emergency management field full-time, Lord worked in the emergency medical services and public health field, including serving as the State Health Department (ESF-8) Representative in the New Jersey State Emergency Operations Center during the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks.

Lord currently serves as an Executive Committee / Board Member of the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association and has served on various working groups at the local, state, and national level; including the DHS/FEMA NIMS Integration Center's Strategic Resources Group and Miami Urban Area Strategic Initiative Working Group.

Lord holds a Bachelor of Science from Drexel University and is a certified Florida Professional Emergency Manager (FPEM).



Alan Harris

Chief Administrator / Emergency Manager

Office of Emergency Management, Seminole County

Alan Harris has worked in emergency services for over 18 years. He began his career while completing his degree from the University of Florida in Gainesville, Fla.

Harris's first position in emergency services was for the Gainesville Fire Rescue Association, a student group at the University of Florida. One year later, he was recruited for work with the Alachua County Fire Rescue Department. While in Alachua County, Harris developed the public information/outreach division, restructured the reserve/volunteer core and developed the first EMS bike team. Harris responded to multiple emergencies including the 1998 wildfires, the worst wildfire outbreak in Florida history. He was deployed to Flagler County during that year, the only county in Florida to be completely evacuated during a disaster.

In 1999, Harris moved to Orlando and started work for the Altamonte Springs Fire Department. In 2002, he served as a member of the public affairs team for the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah. That same year he was deployed to the Mallory Swamp Fire, the largest wildfire in Florida history. In October 2002, Seminole County merged with the Altamonte Springs Fire Department.

Harris currently serves as the Chief Administrator / Emergency Manager for Seminole County Office of Emergency Management. His first night on the job in emergency management was Aug. 13, 2004, the day Hurricane Charley hit the state of Florida. During the 2004 hurricane season, Harris served as Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Manager for Hurricanes Charley, Frances, and Jeanne, and was deployed to Pensacola to assist the Escambia County EOC after Hurricane Ivan. He has managed incidents including the Tropical Storm Fay 2008 (the worst flood in recorded history in Central Florida), Suwannee River Flood 2009, Operation Haiti Relief 2010 (the largest repatriation in the United States history), Trayvon Martin civil unrest events of 2012, State of Florida vs George Zimmerman nationally recognized trial, Pulse Nightclub Mass Casualty Incident in 2016 and Hurricane Matthew in 2016.

Harris is a co-chair on the Regional Domestic Security Task Force, Regional Chair of the Executive Group for the Urban Area Security Initiative, Area Governor for the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association, Emergency Management Chair for the State Executive Group on Homeland Security, and Coordinator of the Central Florida Type-3 Incident Management Team. In 2012, he was selected as Intelligence Liaison of the Year for the disruption of three domestic security events. In 2013, Harris was recognized as the Emergency Manager of the Year for the State of Florida.

He teaches numerous Federal Emergency Management Agency and Department of Homeland Security courses.

Harris has achieved the Professional Emergency Manager certification by the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association and was awarded the Certified Emergency Manager designation by the International Association of Emergency Managers.



Manuel Soto

Emergency Manager

Office of Emergency Management, City of Orlando

Manuel Soto is the Emergency Manager of the City of Orlando Office of Emergency Management (OEM). He coordinates the city's Emergency Management programs and is responsible for oversight of the city's efforts to effectively prevent, respond to, and recover from natural and man-made disasters.

During his tenure, Soto has successfully coordinated the city's response to several federally-declared disasters. Most recently, he managed the Emergency Operations Center during Hurricane Irma, Hurricane Matthew and the Pulse shooting incident.

Under his leadership, the City of Orlando has achieved full accreditation through the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP), one of only seven cities in the nation and the first municipal government in the state of Florida to receive this distinction.



Soto also served in the U.S. Army active and reserves component. He was an Infantry Officer and a Communications Officer in the U.S. Army. During his various worldwide deployments, he specialized in tactical command and control communication systems and emergency contingency planning.

Soto also enjoys being active in the world of academia. He has worked as an adjunct instructor with the University of Central Florida School of Public Administration for 13 years, teaching emergency management. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education and Social Science from Inter-American University of Puerto Rico and a Master of Public Administration degree from Troy State University in Alabama.

He is a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) since 2002 with the International Association of Emergency Management.

He is married to Daly with two marvelous children, Christine and Robert.

