



STATE OF FLORIDA  
**DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**  
*"State Emergency Response Team"*

JEB BUSH  
Governor

CRAIG FUGATE  
Director

**THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2005**

**2005 National Hurricane Conference Announces Winners of the Neil Frank Award**

*Florida's Fugate and FEMA's Carwile to share the top honor*

NEW ORLEANS, La. The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual National Hurricane Conference today announced the 2005 winners of the Neil Frank Award as well as other Outstanding Achievement Awards to be presented during the annual banquet in New Orleans, La.

Craig Fugate, Director of the Florida Division of Emergency Management, and William Carwile, Federal Coordinating Officer for Florida with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, will be accepting the Neil Frank Award for their combined response efforts during the 2004 Florida storms. The Neil Frank Award is given to emergency management professionals who have shown dedication in the areas of Hurricane Preparedness, Mitigation and Response.

Distinguished Service Awards will be given to: Bruce Baughman, Director of Alabama Emergency Management Agency; Donald Daniels, St. Lucie County Division of Emergency Management; Michael Hardin, Escambia County of Emergency Management; Keith Holman, Martin County Emergency Management Division; Robert S. Lay, Brevard County Office of Emergency Management; Nathan McCollum, Indian River County Emergency Management Division and Wayne Sallade, Charlotte County Office of Emergency Management

Outstanding Achievement Awards will be given in four categories; Meteorology, Mitigation, News Media and Public Awareness. The award winners are:

Meteorology: 53<sup>rd</sup> Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, Keesler Air Force Base, MS; NOAA Aircraft Operations Center, MacDill Air Force Base, FL and William Sammler, NOAA National Weather Service, Wakefield, VA

Mitigation: Timothy Reinhold, Ph.D., P.E., Institute for Business and Home Safety, Wakefield, VA

News Media: 2004 Radio and Television Electronic Pool, National Hurricane Center, Miami, FL

Public Awareness: Leslie Chapman-Henderson, Federal Alliance for Safe Homes, Tallahassee, FL. Also receiving the award is the City of Sanibel, Florida

A Special Humanitarian Award will be presented to Eastern Shore Interfaith Recovery Team, Cambridge, MD. A Special Hurricane Tracking and Decision-Making Award will be presented to George Sambataro, PC Weather Products, Marietta, GA.

The National Hurricane Conference is the Nation's forum for education and professional training in hurricane preparedness, <http://www.hurricanemeeting.com>.

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