



FEMA e-News: Preparedness Tips for the Private Sector

July-August, 2015

REGION II - CARIBBEAN AREA DIVISION

USVI Governor Mapp visits FEMA Caribbean Distribution Center



USVI Property and Procurement Commissioner, Randolph Bennett, USVI Governor, Kenneth Mapp, Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency (VITEMA) Director Mona Barnes, and FEMA CAD Director, Alejandro De La Campa, during their visit to FEMA Caribbean Distribution Center. FEMA photo.

Recently elected US Virgin Islands (USVI) Governor Kenneth Mapp visited the FEMA Caribbean Distribution Center on June 19, to learn first-hand about the location and plans in place for the distribution of commodities and resources available for an emergency or disaster

operation in the USVI and Puerto Rico. This visit furthers on a thriving partnership among federal and newly appointed territorial officials working together to be better prepared for emergencies.

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**DON'T WAIT. COMMUNICATE.
MAKE YOUR EMERGENCY PLAN TODAY.**



SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH!



AMERICA'S
PrepareAthon!



USVI Gov. Mapp Visits FEMA... Cont.



Gov. Mapp along with key USVI leaders walked through the FEMA Caribbean Distribution Center and learned about all the resources available for the USVI for an emergency. FEMA photo.

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Along with Governor Mapp, were other key players during a federal disaster declaration process in the jurisdiction, such as: USVI Chief of Staff, Randolph

H. Knight, Property and Procurement Commissioner, Randolph Bennett, Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency (VITEMA) Director Mona Barnes, and the Director

of Communications of the Governor, Kimberly Jones.

"Receiving Governor Mapp and his staff in our facilities offered us an opportunity to reassure them of our commitment towards their constituents and visitors. We stand ready to support the Territory not only with emergency resources but also with experience and knowledge of the distinctive needs of our Caribbean area," said Alejandro De La Campa, FEMA CAD Director. "It was a great opportunity to personally meet with their counterparts in Puerto Rico to share ideas, concerns and potential solutions."

Since its inauguration in 2012, this facility serves as one of 8 distribution centers maintained by FEMA to ensure that emergency resources are available for response capability across the United States and its territories. These are permanent facilities that receive, store, and ship disaster commodities and equipment.

The Distribution Center has 80,000 square feet of warehouse space, and a large staging area at its 11-dock doors, allowing FEMA personnel to stage a greater amount of resources at one time. It contains a variety of emergency supplies and equipment, such as water, meals, tarps, plastic sheeting (roofing), blankets, cots, emergency generators and other essential items that may be rapidly distributed in the immediate aftermath of an event affecting the Caribbean region.

After visiting the Distribution Center, Governor Mapp and his staff met with Governor Alejandro García Padilla at La Fortaleza.



Bill Vogel visits FEMA CAD as Pre-Designated FCO

FEMA's Region 2 pre-designated Federal Coordinator Officer, Bill Vogel visited the Caribbean Area Division (CAD) Office during the week of June 29 to July 2, 2015, to meet several Caribbean stakeholders including Puerto Rico's Governor, Alejandro Garcia Padilla, PR Resident Commissioner, Pedro Pierluisi, PREMA and CAD Staff. This visit in advance to the area where he might lead response a recovery operations, provided fertile ground to strengthen collaborative relations within our Region's team before an incident occurs.

Mr. Vogel visited FEMA's Caribbean Distribution Center in San Juan where he had an opportunity to assess resources and commodities available in the facility for disasters or emergencies events in Puerto Rico or US Virgin Islands. He also had an opportunity to visit the Incident Support Base in the Municipality of Ceiba, a staging area for assets prior



CAD Director, De La Campa and Bill Vogel during a conference call at FEMA's Caribbean Distribution Center. FEMA photo.

to an emergency, and the PREMA Urban Search & Rescue office in the Municipality of Fajardo.

He also attended the welcoming ceremony of the United States Coast Guard Cutter Richard Dixon Homeport at La Puntilla in Old San Juan. Each cutter is named for an enlisted Coast Guard hero who distinguished him or herself in the line

of duty. This vessel is named after the Coast Guard hero Richard Dixon, a First Class Boatswain's Mate stationed at Tillamook Bay, Oregon, was awarded two Coast Guard Medals, equivalent of the Gold Lifesaving Medal, for his heroic actions on the July Fourth weekend in 1980. A se

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Left: PR Resident Commissioner, Pedro Pierluisi and Bill Vogel met during the welcoming ceremony of the United States Coast Guard Cutter Richard Dixon Homeport at La Puntilla in Old San Juan. Right: Bill Vogel and CAD Director De La Campa talk with PR Governor, Alejandro García Padilla during the US Coast Guard welcoming ceremony. FEMA photos.



Bill Vogel visits FEMA CAD as Pre-Designated... Cont.

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ries of dangerous storms swept across the Pacific Northwest and two boating incidents could have ended in disaster. Dixon and his crew courageously performed two separate rescues that week-end saving the lives of nine individuals.

During that ceremony, Vogel met Governor Garcia Padilla and Resident Commissioner Pierluisi, as well as several heads of state and federal agencies.

By the end of his visit, Bill had participated in several meetings that offered him and the CAD team additional time to get acquainted with local, state and federal personnel that will support his leadership during emergency or disaster operations in the area.



CAD Director, De La Campa and Bill Vogel during the welcoming ceremony of the United States Coast Guard Cutter Richard Dixon Homeport at La Puntilla in Old San Juan. FEMA photo.



Left: Vogel met with Nino Correa, PREMA's Urban Search and Rescue Director during his visit to PR Urban Search & Rescue office. Right: Vogel, with José Rivera-Solis, FEMA CAD Logistics Specialist during the visit to the Incident Support Base in the Municipality of Ceiba. FEMA photo.



September is National Preparedness Month

AMERICA'S *PrepareAthon!*SM for Hurricane Safety

BE SMART.
TAKE PART.
PREPARE.

September is National Preparedness Month. This year we are asking you to take action now – make a plan with your community, your family, and for your pets. Plan how to stay safe and communicate during the disasters that can affect your community. We ask everyone to participate in America's PrepareAthon! and the national day

of action, **National PrepareAthon! Day**, which culminates **National Preparedness Month on September 30**.

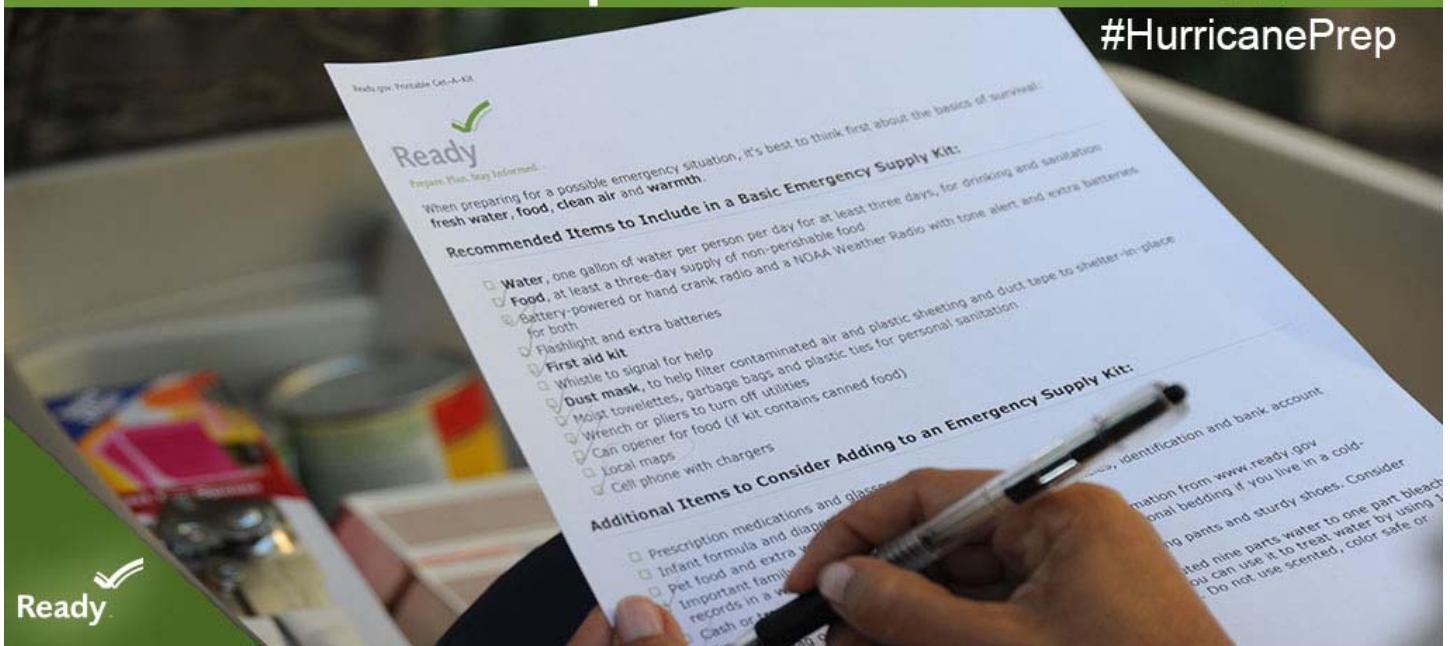
Each year National Preparedness Month serves as a reminder to reassess our emergency plans and practice appropriate actions to take before, during and after disaster strikes. The theme for this Septem-

ber, "Don't Wait. Communicate. Make your Emergency Plan Today.," is a call for all of us to develop and practice an emergency communication plan so we know how to contact family and friends, co-workers, and supervisors in an emergency.

Build a Kit. Be Prepared.

www.ready.gov/kit

#HurricanePrep



New VITEMA Director Mona Barnes visits Puerto Rico

Describing herself as “a ‘no nonsense’ person that has an ability to bring people together”, the first female Director of the Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency (VITEMA), Mona Barnes, met with FEMA CAD Director De La Campa and his staff in preparedness for the busier part of the year, the hurricane season, giving everyone a chance to share experiences, knowledge and develop working plans that will benefit the Territory.

Director Barnes was also the first female State Command Sergeant Major of the Virgin Islands National Guard, “a more than two decades experience that molded her into a disciplined person”, Barnes said. She was glad to meet the team that would support her and the VITEMA staff all year long on emergency management activities.



PREMA Director, Miguel Rios, VITEMA Director, Mona Barnes, and FEMA CAD Director, Alejandro de la Campa during the visit to the PREMA Emergency Operations Center. FEMA photo.

After joining Gov. Mapp on his visit to the DC Caribbean, Director Barnes visited the Emergency Operations Center in the PR Emergency

Management Agency during a meeting with the Interagency Coordinators activated for the current drought situation in Puerto Rico.



VITEMA Director, Mona Barnes along with FEMA CAD Director, Alejandro De La Campa and his staff during USVI Gov. Mapp and key staff visit to FEMA’s Caribbean Distribution Center. FEMA photo.



FEMA participates in NATO's 2015 Civil Protection Group Seminar in Sweden

Among 76 participants of 21 nations, FEMA CAD Director, Alejandro De La Campa represented FEMA in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) 2015 Civil Protection Group (CPG) Seminar which was held in Stockholm, Sweden from June 1 to 3, 2015. The summit titled "Transforming the new CPG Paradigm into an actionable toolkit", included representatives from several sectors including the Academia, Private sector, NATO and European Union (EU) members, seeking to raise awareness of the challenges that large scale emergencies and its effects pose on National Authorities.

NATO seeks to identify possible areas where its expertise and tools, including military support, can strengthen and contribute to assisting national planning. Consequently, some of the seminar's objectives included: support National authorities in building resilience through improved disaster preparedness, planning and response; emphasize the importance of adaptable planning and preparing for large scale emergencies; and build in agility, flexibility and resilience in preparedness, planning, response and recovery and an all hazards approach to meet challenges of large scale and complex emergencies.

Each nation faces a variety of challenges, but also shares similarities to



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Participants of NATO's 2015 Civil Protection Group Seminar in Sweden. Photo provided by NATO.



FEMA participates in NATO's 2015 Civil Protection Group Seminar in Sweden... Cont.



FEMA CAD Director, De La Campa along with other workgroup's participants during NATO's 2015 Civil Protection Group Seminar in Sweden. Photo provided by NATO.

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consider, such as: preparedness for large scale events, complex disasters; raise public awareness and attention during large scale events; using their imagination to think of the un-thinkable to prepare for the unexpected; failure of coordination; political issues, when political figures want short solutions to long term issues.

In addition to these challenges, dealing with a catastrophe represents managing a vital system crash, a systemic collapse. This may not only imply the number of

casualties or infrastructure damages due to the disaster, but also damages to power grid, Internet, transportation, medical service, among others.

Technology is considered a potential tool to contest some of these challenges, which provided addi-

tional material for further discussion.

A Final Report regarding the recommendations agreed upon the working groups should be available later this year.

www.ready.gov/hurricanes

HURRICANE WARNING

➤ **Conditions are expected in your area within 36 hours. Follow evacuation orders from local officials if given.**

#HurricanePrep



Ready 



Global Entry Gives Qualified International Travelers an Edge

U.S. Customs & Border Protection (CBP) Global Entry program has been effective in its goal of letting the good guys get through expediently when arriving from international destinations. "The members of the Global Entry program enjoy a fast, efficient process when they arrive at participating U.S. airports," said Luz Delgado, Professionalism Service Manager (PSM) for CBP in Puerto Rico. "This also allows us to concentrate our efforts on those individuals who may pose a more serious risk—for example, individuals with criminal records, or who are trying to travel with fraudulent documents."

CBP launched Global Entry in 2008 to allow the clearance of preap-

proved, low-risk travelers upon their arrival in the U.S. Global Entry was launched at 20 major U.S. points of entry, including Puerto Rico's Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport in 2009, as well as at the Miami, Boston Logan, New York John F. Kennedy and Seattle-Tacoma international airports, among others.

Once Global Entry program members arrive at U.S. participating airports, they can walk to an automated kiosk or self-service station where they carry out the CBP process. At the kiosk, their fingerprints and picture will automatically be taken and processed. Participants must declare all imported goods and answer the declaration questions at automated kiosks, but won't have to fill out the customs declaration forms. The kiosk issues a transaction receipt and directs the traveler to baggage claim and the exit. In some cases, members may be selected for further examination when entering the U.S.

"It only costs \$100 for five years, and includes U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Pre-Check." The TSA Pre-Check pilot program, which is a DHS initiative, aims at qualifying some passengers for expedited screening through U.S. airports' security checkpoints. For more information on TSA Pre-Check, visit www.tsa.gov.

People can sign up for Global Entry online, through an application process at www.globalentry.gov. They submit information about themselves that will be reviewed, vetted and screened to ensure they are low-risk travelers who can enjoy this benefit. Those determined to be low-risk are conditionally approved for the program and will get a notification to schedule an inter-



Luz H. Delgado, professionalism service manager/Global Entry Enrollment Center supervisor at the U.S. Customs & Border Protection San Juan field office

view at an Enrollment Center of their liking. The interview usually takes only about 15 minutes, whereby the officer will ask the applicant questions, take the person's photo, collect biometrics (fingerprints), and determine the person's Global Entry eligibility. "Our officers will also teach each qualified applicant how to use the kiosks at the port of entry" stated PSM Delgado. "The Global Entry Enrollment Center at Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport in San Juan is available to help Global Entry applicants enroll from Monday to Friday (including holidays) from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., all year long. Our services are available for frequent travelers or people who just want to enjoy worry-free travel," she said, adding that since the local office opened in 2009, the center has processed more than 10,000 applications, with this number increasing every year. Anyone interested in learning more about the Global Entry program can go to www.globalentry.gov or www.cbp.gov, or stop by the Global Entry Enrollment Center at Muñoz Marín airport to speak with a CBP officer in person.

THE WAIT IS OVER.

With Global Entry, there's no need to wait in the passport line.



Everybody hates waiting—especially when traveling. If you frequently travel to the U.S. for business or leisure, you know the feeling: you're in the country after a long trip, and you just want to get to your destination. That's why U.S. Customs and Border Protection developed the Global Entry program for frequent international travelers. As a Global Entry member, you arrive in the U.S., use the automated Global Entry kiosk and you're on your way. No more paperwork. No more passport lines. Just expedited U.S. entrance. For more information and to apply for the program, go to www.globalentry.gov. It's that easy—and it's available at most major U.S. airports. So what are you waiting for! Apply for Global Entry today!

GLOBAL ENTRY
TRUSTED TRAVELER NETWORK

Apply today at www.globalentry.gov or call the San Juan Global Entry Enrollment Center at 787-253-4526.



Coast Guard names building in honor of Puerto Rico native Coast Guardsman



The plaque for the newly named Chief Warrant Officer Joseph B. Avilés Fast Response Cutter and Engineering Support Building is unveiled by son Joseph Avilés Jr. and Capt. Robert W. Warren, Sector San Juan commander, during a dedication ceremony on base Aug. 18, 2015 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. U.S. Coast Guard photo)

The Coast Guard paid tribute posthumously to Chief Warrant Officer Joseph B. Avilés during a dedication ceremony at Sector San Juan naming the new Fast Response Cutter and Engineering Building in his honor.

"Today we honor one of our finest, a native son of Naranjito, Puerto Rico who was a great man and a distinguished Coast Guardsman, Chief Warrant Officer Joseph B. Avilés," said Capt. Robert W. Warren, Sector San Juan commander. "As we name our newest building, it takes on even further significance, not only for representing the unfolding next chapter in our Service's promising future, but also for representing the greatness and legacy of its past."

The ceremony was attended by fellow Coast Guardsman from Sector San Juan as well as three generations of the Avilés family including his son, his grandson and his great grandson. The highlight of the event occurred

when the son of Chief Warrant Officer Avilés, Joseph Avilés Jr., had the honor of unveiling the plaque dedicating the new facility to his father and placing it inside the building, where people may see and learn about his father's life, service and accomplishments in the Coast Guard.

"We knew much of Pop's early life but viewed it as a personal history of great interest only to our family," said Joseph Avilés Jr. "After hearing the results of the intensive Coast Guard search into his life and naval career and the honors bestowed upon him, we were surprised, overwhelmed, and finally very delighted. We are glad to share Pop with others."

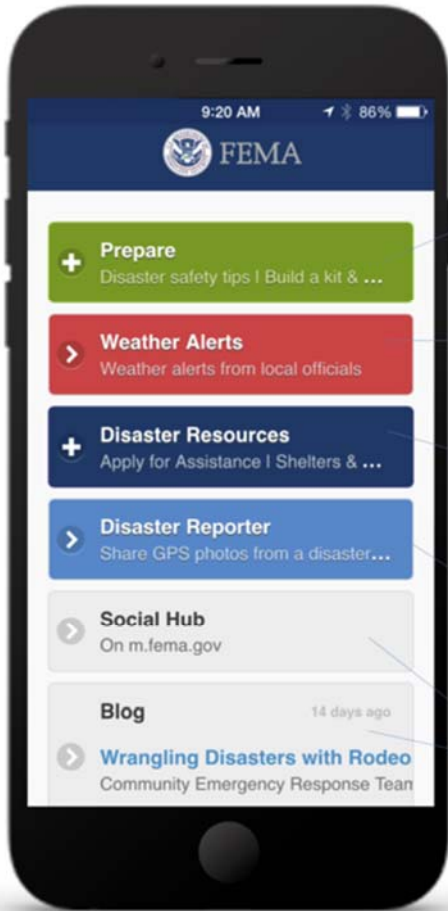
Chief Warrant Officer Joseph B. Avilés (1896-1990), served the United States for more than 31 years, through both World War I and World War II. Born in Naranjito,

Puerto Rico, Avilés served in the U.S. Navy for 10 years prior to joining the U.S. Coast Guard in 1925. Later that same year he was advanced to Chief Gunner's Mate, and became the first Hispanic Chief Petty Officer in the Coast Guard. In 1943, he was awarded a World War II wartime promotion that also made him the Coast Guard's first Hispanic Chief Warrant Officer. Avilés retired from active duty service in 1946 and lived with his family in Staten Island, New York and later in Baltimore, Maryland. At the age of ninety-four, he passed away and was buried with full military honors at the Baltimore National Cemetery.

The Chief Warrant Officer Joseph B. Avilés Fast Response Cutter and Engineering Support Building represents the best in modern civil engineering and design. This state-of-the-art, \$9 million-dollar and 15,900 square-foot facility adds significant capacity and capability to the support structure of six new 154-foot Sentinel Class cutters that are being home-ported in San Juan, Puerto Rico and their crews, who serve on the front lines of Coast Guard operations in the Eastern Caribbean.



Download FEMA App



- 

Get tips to survive natural disasters, customize your emergency checklist, and save meeting locations
- 

Receive alerts from the National Weather Service
- 

Locate open shelters and Disaster Recovery Centers, and apply for assistance
- 

Upload and share your disaster photos
- 

Stay connected on social media and the FEMA blog

The FEMA App contains preparedness information for different types of disasters, an interactive checklist for emergency kits, information on how to stay safe and recover after a disaster, FEMA Disaster Recovery Center locations (one-stop centers where disaster survivors can access key relief services) and Shelters, general ways the public can get involved before and after a disaster, and the FEMA blog.



You can also download the app via text messaging:

- If you have an Apple device: Text **APPLE** to **43362** (4FEMA)
- If you have an Android device: Text **ANDROID** to **43362** (4FEMA)
- If you have a Blackberry device: Text **BLACKBERRY** to **43362** (4FEMA)

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