



2024

WHOLE COMMUNITY SUMMIT

Rooted & Ready: *A Whole Community Approach*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2024

SHERATON BALTIMORE NORTH

TOWSON, MARYLAND

SPEAKER BIOS



WHOLE
COMMUNITY
INTEGRATION



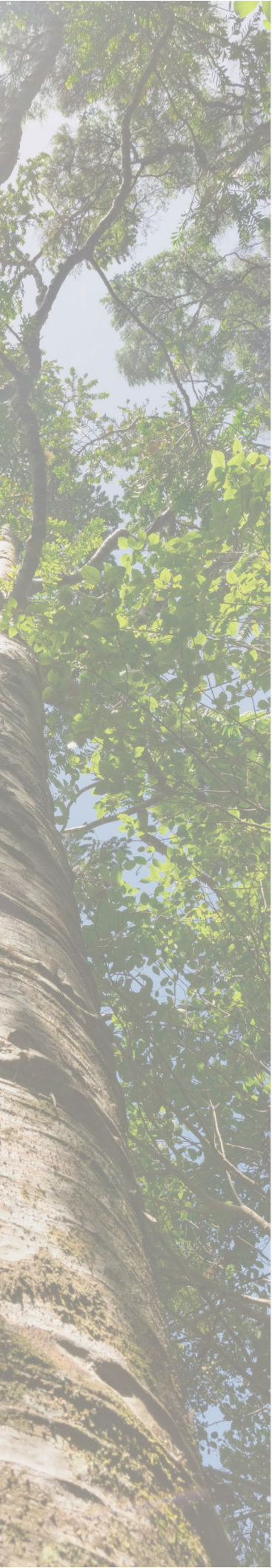
Russell J. Strickland
Secretary
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Russell J. Strickland has been leading the Maryland Department of Emergency Management (formerly Maryland Emergency Management Agency, MEMA) since July 2015 and was reappointed Secretary of Emergency Management by Governor Wes Moore in January 2023.

In this role, Mr. Strickland directs a department that has the primary responsibility and authority for emergency preparedness policy, and for coordinating hazard mitigation, incident response, disaster recovery, the Maryland 9-1-1 Board, and the Office of Resilience for the State of Maryland. This includes serving as a direct advisor to the Governor during disasters and coordinating support for local governments as requested.

Mr. Strickland is an experienced emergency management professional who has more than 40 years of experience in the field of emergency services and first responder activities at the state and local levels of government, academia, and the private sector. This includes expertise in fire and rescue services, emergency medical services, fire inspection and investigation, communications, and emergency management leadership.

Directly prior to his appointment, Mr. Strickland worked as a Senior Law & Policy Analyst at the University of Maryland Center for Health and Homeland Security (CHHS), where he led CHHS' work with the United States Department of State Anti-Terrorism Assistance Program and developed strategy for the Montgomery County (Md.) Fire Department to meet compliance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Mr. Strickland also has experience leading a cabinet-level emergency services department at the local level as the Director of Emergency Services in Harford County, Md. This position oversees emergency operations and communications,



public safety answering points (the 9-1-1 center), training, and special operations among other responsibilities.

His executive responsibilities have also included previously serving the State of Maryland as Deputy Director of the Maryland Emergency Management Agency and the Assistant Director of the Field Programs Division at the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, University of Maryland College Park.

Mr. Strickland has a Master of Science degree in Management from Frostburg State College. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminology from the University of Maryland, College Park.



Sara Bender
Director of Disaster Risk Reduction
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Sara currently serves as the Director of Disaster Risk Reduction at the Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM), providing oversight to the Risk & Recovery, Communications & Outreach, Public Assistance, Hazard Mitigation and Whole Community Integration branches. Previously, she was the Public Assistance Officer and Branch Manager. During her time at MDEM, she has also served as the State Coordinating Officer, leading damage assessment and infrastructure recovery for three declared natural disasters, as well as the COVID-19 event. Most recently, she has served as the Executive Liaison for the FSK Bridge incident.

Prior to joining the staff of MDEM, she served in the United States Air Force and continued to serve as a federal employee, also with the Air Force, until September 2016, when she transitioned to service with the State of Maryland. Sara holds an M.S. in Management and Public Relations, and Graduate Certificate in Human Resources. She has also attended the FEMA Executive Academy and is currently attending the Executive Leaders Program at the Center for Homeland Defense and Security at the Naval Postgraduate School. Sara was recently named 2024 Emergency Manager of the Year by the Maryland Emergency Management Association.



Asma Mirza
Chief Performance Officer
Office of the Governor

Asma Mirza is Governor Moore's Chief Performance Officer. She served as one of the leads for the Economic Response to the FSK Bridge Collapse, coordinating the Intergovernmental Economic Response Team. Asma was previously a Deputy for the White House Infrastructure Implementation Team and Special Assistant to the President, and Chief of Staff for the COVID-19 Response Team.



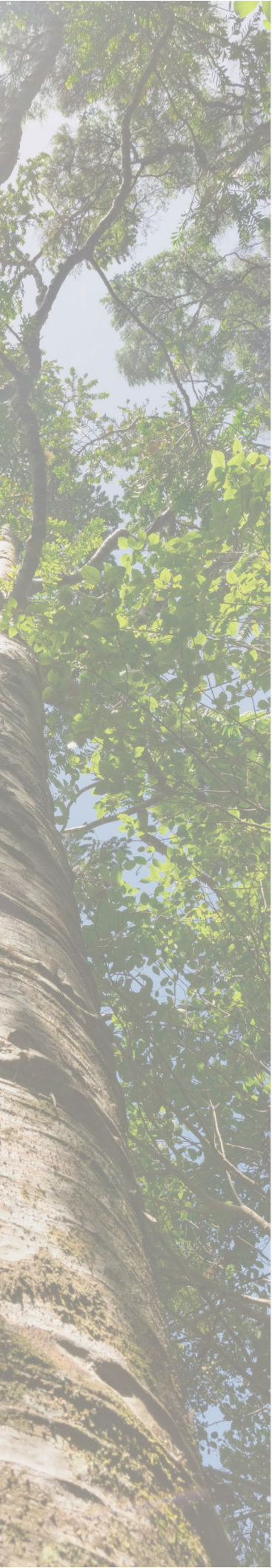
Commander Baxter B. Smoak
Commander
United States Coast Guard

Commander Baxter B. Smoak reported to Coast Guard Sector Maryland-National Capital Region (NCR) in June of 2021. As the Prevention Department Head, CDR Smoak is responsible for the safety and security inspections of all U.S. commercial vessels, foreign vessels, waterfront facilities, containers, and life raft servicing facilities in the area. He also manages the uninspected passenger and fishing vessel safety programs as well as all port safety and security programs. Other responsibilities include overseeing all waterways management activities consisting of aids to navigation, marine environmental prevention, marine event planning and permitting, the creation and enforcement of all safety or security zones, and the recreational boating safety program for the state of Maryland and the NCR. Prior to reporting to Baltimore, CDR Smoak was the

Compliance and Analysis Division Chief in the Coast Guard's Office of Investigations and Analysis where he managed the Coast Guard's use of vessel, inspections, investigations, and enforcement data to inform senior leadership decision making, strengthen industry and governmental partnerships, and deliver on the Coast Guard's promise of Marine Safety.

Prior to his Coast Guard Headquarters assignment, CDR Smoak spent 12 months interning with eight diverse maritime companies and government partners as a part of the Coast Guard's Marine Industry Training program. His other staff assignments include Aide to the Eleventh Coast Guard District Commander and District Eleven Waterways Management Branch.

CDR Smoak served as a Deck Watch Officer on cutter CYPRESS (WLB-210), a 225-foot coastal buoy tender, with assignments on the East, West, and Gulf coasts as well as the Great Lakes. He is a seasoned



marine safety officer with afloat and ashore aids to navigation experience as well as an extensive background and qualifications in marine inspections, port state control, facility inspections, waterways management, and marine investigations and enforcement.

CDR Smoak was the recipient of the 2022 Rear Admiral Sidney A. Wallace Award for Excellence in Marine Environmental Response & Preparation, the 2022 Congressman James Sener Award for Excellence in Marine Investigations, and the 2020 CDR Joel Magnussen Innovation Award for Management that recognizes the Coast Guard officer who best uses innovation to improve the service. His personal military awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Coast Guard Commendation Medal (3), Commandant's Letter of Commendation (3), and the Humanitarian Service Medal.

CDR Smoak is a native of Charleston, SC and graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 2004 with high honors. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Management, a Master of Business Administration from California State University, and is an Accredited Maritime Port Executive. He resides in Crofton, Maryland with his spouse Suzanne and their five children Grayson, Caroline, Abigail, Beau, and Liv.



Jonathan Daniels
Executive Director
Maryland Port Administration

Jonathan Daniels was named as executive director of the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) by Maryland Transportation Secretary Paul J. Wiedefeld on December 20, 2023 following an extensive national recruitment process that included a high-level executive search committee and nationally recognized maritime executive search firm. Mr. Daniels came to Maryland after serving as chief executive officer and port director since 2020 at Port Everglades in Broward County, Florida and has more than 30 years of port and economic development experience.

As MPA executive director, Mr. Daniels oversees and manages the six state-owned, public marine terminals of the Helen Delich Bentley Port of Baltimore. The marine terminals handle autos, breakbulk, containers, cruise, farm and construction equipment, and forest products. The Port of Baltimore generates about 20,000 direct jobs, with about 273,000 jobs overall in Maryland linked to the Port.

At Port Everglades, Mr. Daniels led a \$3 billion plan to expand business lines in containers, energy, and cruise activity. Port Everglades is the 13th busiest container port in the U.S., the busiest energy port in Florida and the third busiest cruise homeport in the world.

From 2013 through 2020, Mr. Daniels was executive director and CEO for the Mississippi State Port Authority. In prior years, he served as executive director of the Port of Oswego in New York, managing director for the Port of Greater Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and as port director of the Eastport Port Authority in Maine.

Mr. Daniels earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science – International Politics and Foreign Affairs from The Citadel, in Charleston, South Carolina, and continued his education at the Maine Maritime Academy in Castine, Maine.



Kerry Doyle
Managing Director
Tradepoint Atlantic

Kerry co-heads real estate and development and oversees day-to-day operations for Tradepoint. In 2014, he was part of the Redwood Capital investment team that acquired the 3,300-acre Bethlehem Steel facility. Since joining the Tradepoint executive team in 2015, he has been involved in over 8 million square feet of industrial development.

Kerry brings expertise in underwriting investment opportunities and assisting with portfolio management. Prior to joining the team at Tradepoint Atlantic, Kerry was at Redwood Capital Investments. He previously worked in the Investment Banking Division at Barclays Capital, where he advised clients on merger and acquisitions, debt financings and equity raises. Kerry also worked at Houlihan Lokey in the Financial Restructuring Group. There he acted as an advisor to debtors, creditors and committees in out-of-court recapitalizations, sales processes and plans of reorganization.

Kerry received a B.B.A degree with a dual major in Finance and Accounting from the University of Wisconsin, is a Certified Public Accountant and was named a 2021 Daily Record Influential Marylander.

About Tradepoint Atlantic:

The 3,300-acre industrial site in Baltimore, Maryland, offers a gateway to markets around the United States and the world, featuring a unique combination of access to deep-water berths, rail and highways. Groundbreaking agreements signed with federal and state environmental regulators in 2014 to remediate the legacy from a century of steelmaking enable the redevelopment of the site with the potential to become one of North America's most strategic multi-modal, multi-commodity terminals.



Pastor Phil Huber
Chairperson
Maryland Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster

Pastor Phil is the Chairperson of Maryland VOAD. He is a member representative for Lutheran Disaster Response (Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries).

Pastor Phil has been a disaster consultant for the Lutheran Church since 1985, when he responded to his first disaster as a parish pastor in West Virginia following the remnants of Hurricane Juan depositing 24" of rain in 30 hours of the Potomac Highlands. Since then, he has responded to 18 Federally declared disasters throughout the eastern United States and Caribbean. He now serves as Disaster Response Coordinator for Maryland and Delaware for Lutheran Disaster Response through Diakon Lutheran Disaster Response.

He provides expertise in assisting communities to establish and form Long Term Recovery Committees and Disaster Staff, Disaster Management and Logistics, and Disaster Case Management. At the request of Somerset County Long Term Recovery Committee, he helped lead their efforts after Superstorm Sandy, from October 2012 through September 2015.

He has served as Chairperson of Maryland VOAD since March 2017. He can be reached by cell or text message at 410-375-5053 or email at chairperson@marylandvoad.org



Tessa Lovro
Whole Community Integration Branch Manager
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

In 2022 Tessa Lovro joined the Disaster Risk Reduction Team at the Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM) as the Whole Community Integration Branch Manager. In her current role she manages MDEM's Whole Community Integration program which includes supporting the Private Sector Integration Program and the Nonprofit Engagement Program and the development of the Maryland Business Emergency Operation Center (MBEOC). During activation Tessa often leads the Whole Community Integration State Coordinating Function (WCI-SCF).

For more than 18 years, Tessa has been a noteworthy leader in the emergency management arena. Prior to working with MDEM, Tessa was the Regional Disaster Officer at the American Red Cross supporting the National Capital & Greater Chesapeake Region. Additionally, she served in leadership positions for her work as a member of the Red Cross's Hurricane Champion leadership group, a member of their National Response Management Team and has deployed in operational leadership positions to over 40 catastrophic events. Tessa also served as the Chairperson for Kern County's Voluntary Organization Active in Disaster (VOAD) in Southern California and worked as an emergency management consultant.



Kyrle Preis III
Global Director of Environmental Health & Safety
Under Armour

Kyrle Preis III is the Global Director of Environmental Health & Safety for Under Armour. He is responsible for managing day to day safety and compliance operations for all Under Armour global corporate offices, distribution facilities and retail stores. This includes implementing Under Armour

EH&S programs to provide a safe and compliant workplace for both Under Armour teammates and all onsite contractors performing work at Under Armour. He also facilitates emergency response protocols in partnership with UA Protect for all locations and manages the direction and execution of all safety programs and policies. He serves as the contact for federal, state, regional and international environmental, health, and safety agencies.

Kyrle has been with Under Armour since 2019 following a nearly 29-year career in the Baltimore County Fire Department. While in the fire department he held 9 ranks and retired at the end of 2018 as Fire Chief. The department is one of the largest career and volunteer combination departments in the country, with over 1000 sworn members and over 2000 volunteers. He served as a governor's appointee on the State of Maryland EMS Board for 5 years, overseeing budgets for the University of Maryland Fire Rescue Institute, the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems, Maryland State Police Aviation Command and Shock Trauma.

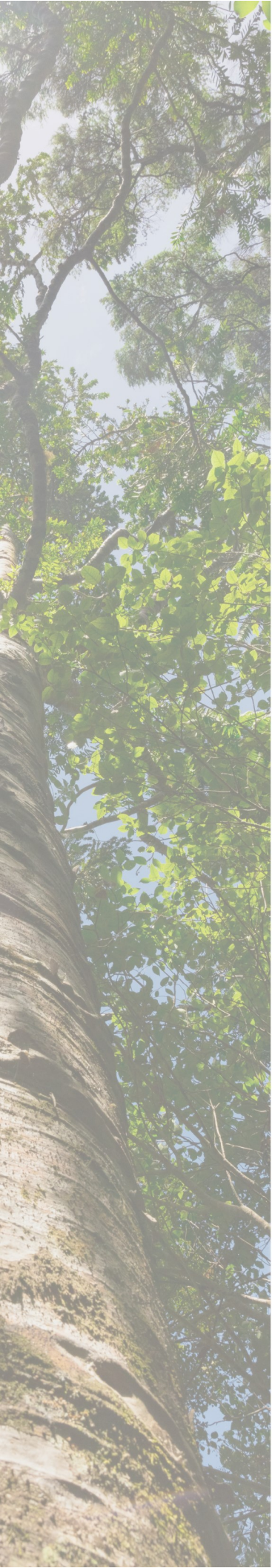
Kyrle holds a Master of Science Degree in Public Safety Administration from Lewis University and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Fire Service Administration from the University of Maryland. He lives in Upper Falls, Maryland with his wife Lisa. They have three children: Ashley - 30, Kyrle IV - 24 and Keegan - 21.



Councilman Israel “Izzy” Patoka
Chairman of Baltimore County Council
2nd Councilmanic District
Baltimore County Council

Mr. Patoka was first elected as the Councilman for the second district in 2018 and is now serving his second term. During his first term in office, Mr. Patoka focused on the nuts and bolts of government by putting an emphasis on community input, constituent services, and a strong social media presence to distribute information. Mr. Patoka served on the Solid Waste Work Group to find solutions for trash, landfill, and sustainability problems the county faces. He also served as the county council’s representative to the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo), a non-profit, non-partisan group of all 24 Maryland counties promoting effective, efficient government through advocacy, education, and collaboration. Mr. Patoka served as a leader during the 2020 Comprehensive Zoning Map Process (CZMP), the process where the county council considers requests for changes to the zoning classification of individual properties. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Mr. Patoka’s office was on the forefront by organizing and working food drives across the second district. His social media page was also a vital source of information, such as testing and vaccine locations, for many residents in a time of mass uncertainty. Mr. Patoka is proud of the work he and his office has accomplished in four years and will continue to work for the residents of the second district and Baltimore County.

Mr. Patoka was previously the Director of Community Development for LifeBridge Health, where he directed the development and implementation of a multidimensional plan to improve the quality of life for those living and working in the areas surrounding LifeBridge campus locations in Baltimore City, Baltimore County and Carroll County. He also worked to enhance community leadership and capacity building, education and workforce development, business and economic development and neighborhood improvement. Among Mr. Patoka’s many accomplishments at LifeBridge Health, he



established the highest performing "Aging in Place" program in the region.

Prior to LifeBridge Health, Mr. Patoka served simultaneously as the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives and as the Director of the Governor's Intergovernmental Affairs Office for the State of Maryland.

Prior to that appointment, Mr. Patoka worked for the Mayor of Baltimore as the founding Director of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods. During his tenure, the Office was nationally recognized as a recipient of the prestigious National Association of Counties' (NACo) Multicultural Diversity Award for extraordinary outreach to ethnic communities. This prestigious award is cosponsored by the Women Officials in NACo, the National Association of Black County Officials and the National Association of Hispanic County Officials

Before that, Mr. Patoka served as Deputy Director for the Baltimore County Department of Planning, prior to which he was with the Baltimore City Department of Planning as the Division Chief for Capital Budgeting. He is nationally certified as a planner by the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Mr. Patoka is a graduate of Towson University where he received both his Bachelor of Science degree and Master of Arts degree in Geography and Environmental Planning.

Mr. Patoka has also been presented the distinction of Fellow with the Academy for Excellence in Local Governance by the University of Maryland's Institute for Governmental Service, the Local Government Insurance Trust, the Maryland Association of Counties and the Maryland Municipal League. He also serves on numerous boards and committees, is a member of the Parent Committee of the George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology and volunteers as a youth basketball coach for the Greater Pikesville Recreation Council.

Mr. Patoka, his wife Denise and their 21-year-old son Rory are members of the Baltimore Hebrew Congregation and live in the historic community of Sudbrook Park.



Heather Iliff
President and Chief Executive Officer
Maryland Nonprofits

Heather Iliff is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Maryland Nonprofits, where she has served since 2014. Heather has been devoted to Maryland Nonprofits since 2007 in various roles, including Vice President and Director of Consulting. Prior roles include serving as an elected Member of the Board of Education, Prince George's County, Deputy Director of Alliance for Nonprofit Management, and Assistant Director of the Institute for Educational Policy at Open Society Institute – Budapest. Heather is a Standards for Excellence Licensed Consultant.

She holds an M.A. in Political Science from Central European University and a B.A. in International Studies from The American University in Washington, D.C. Heather serves as a board member of the Maryland Information Network. Her influential work in the nonprofit sector was recognized when she was celebrated by 195 Business magazine as a 2024 Woman of Influence.



Mark Hubbard
Executive in Residence
Sellinger School of Business and Management

Mr. Mark F. Hubbard recently served as the Deputy Director of the Maryland Governor's Office of Homeland Security. He started his career in public safety in 1981 serving in fire, EMS, and emergency management/homeland security response and executive management roles. He holds an MBA from Loyola University in Maryland where he also serves as an Executive In Residence in the Sellinger School of Business and Management. He teaches business strategy, management consulting, and business law. He also teaches at the University of Maryland, Global Campus and at the University of Maryland, College Park Graduate School of Public Policy. He also holds a JD from the University of Maryland School of Law.



Christiana Ferguson
Nonprofit Engagement Program Manager
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Christiana Ferguson joined MDEM in 2022 as a planner in the Preparedness Branch. She joins us with a background in Criminal Justice and a 5-year position in the Offshore wind industry. Within the past year, she has transitioned into her current role as the Non-Profit Engagement Program Manager and State Voluntary Agency Liaison. In this position, Christiana works to actively bridge community gaps, and establish and foster relationships with various non-profits, community, volunteer, and faith-based organizations by embracing the true whole community approach to emergency management.

Christiana has worked in various activations, participated in exercises, drills, and trainings. During blue skies she facilitates the Non-Profit Engagement Program and during activations, she works with and leads the Whole Community Integration State Coordinating Function (WCI-SCF). Christiana is a skilled planner and especially enjoys event planning with a particular eye for detail and design.

Christiana earned her bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from University of Maryland, Eastern Shore. In her free time, Christina enjoys outdoor activities, camping, horseback riding, and spending quality time with her daughter, along with her family pets.



Jason Lando
Chief of Police
Frederick Police Department

Jason Lando was selected as Chief of Police for the Frederick Police Department in March, 2021.

Chief Lando previously spent 21 years with the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police, where he served his last seven years at the rank of Commander. In his capacity leading one of Pittsburgh's busiest and most diverse districts, Jason and his team implemented several initiatives geared toward uniting police officers and community members.

Since arriving in Frederick, Chief Lando worked with his team to implement several new programs. FPD established a mental health tri-responder program known as the "Crisis Car," as well as a Multi-Cultural Liaison Unit, designed to strengthen relationships between police and community. Another key initiative, the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program is a collaborative effort between FPD and the Frederick County Health Department. Currently, Chief Lando and his team are focused on improving the mental and physical health of FPD employees through their newly-formed Resiliency & Wellness Group (RWG), a team comprised of sworn and professional staff dedicated to ensuring organizational health and wellness.

Jason holds a bachelor's degree in emergency medicine from the University of Pittsburgh and a master's degree in Legal Studies from California University of Pennsylvania. When he is not working, Jason volunteers as a Big Brother to 16-year-old Jayden, as part of Big Brothers Big Sisters - Bigs in Blue program.



Cory D. Edwards, CBCP, CRMP, ACRP
Business Engagement Program Manager
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Cory D. Edwards is the Business Engagement Program Manager with the Maryland Department of Emergency Management under the Whole Community Integration Branch. Through this role, he serves as the Private Sector Liaison for the State of Maryland, facilitates the Private Sector Integration Program (PSIP) in blue skies, and manages the Maryland Business Emergency Operations Center (MBEOC) during activations.

Cory began his career with MDEM in October 2019 as a member of the Grant-Funded School Emergency Management (GSEM) team, where he collaboratively developed and delivered continuing education accredited curriculum designed to improve school safety for educators at all levels across Maryland. In January 2022 he stepped into his current position. As an emergency manager, he has worked in a variety of roles and special assignments through multiple activations.

Cory has over 16 years of dedicated public sector experience in working for state and local government. Cory is very active in his local community as he serves as President of the Board of Directors for his local community revitalization non-profit organization. Cory holds a Bachelor of Science and is currently pursuing his MBA at the University of Maryland Global Campus. He is certified as a Certified Business Continuity Professional, Certified Risk Management Professional, and Associate Cyber Resilience Professional by the Disaster Recovery Institute International.



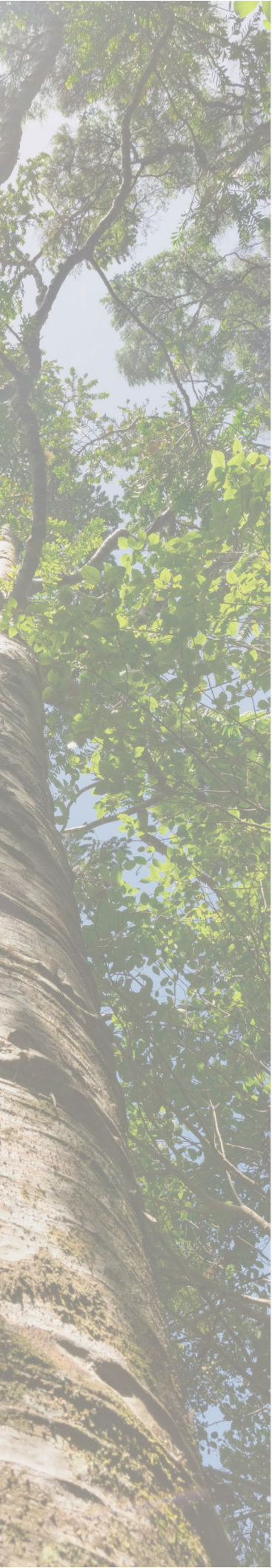
Nancy Hafford
Executive Director
Towson Chamber of Commerce

Executive Director Nancy Hafford has been associated with the Towson Chamber (formerly known as the Towson Business Association) for over twenty years. She served on the Board of Directors for a six-year term that culminated in her becoming President in 2004 and accepted the Executive Director position in 2007.

The Towson Chamber hosts more than 100 outdoor events in our community, including Feet on the Street (Friday night concerts), Towson Spring Festival, Gardens Day, Towson Farmers Market, Baltimore County Christmas Tree Lighting and WinterFest. The Towson Chamber also assists with the Towson Area 4th of July Parade. These events bring over 500,000 people to our community each year.

Her accomplishments as a community leader are numerous and are clearly defined by the events held in the heart of Towson each year. Feet on the Street concerts, held on Friday nights in the summer, contribute to the quality of life experienced in Towson, bringing together people in a community block party with an emphasis on fun for the whole family. Nancy helps to organize two “Clean-up Days” a year with volunteers and students from Towson University to beautify the streets of Towson. In conjunction with that effort, she reaches out to the Baltimore County Detention Center to help with rehabilitating inmates through the work release program. She personally supervises them in various projects. She works closely with Towson University to obtain interns for the Chamber office with the goal of teaching the value of working within and developing community relations.

Nancy also acquired \$750,000 in state and local grants in 2022 and 2023 for surveillance cameras, additional light and to hire 6 security officers to walk around Towson 5 days a week.



She is a strong advocate for fairness in business development with sensitivity towards the needs and wants of local communities.

Nancy also serves as Chairwomen of the Baltimore County Planning Board, serves on the Baltimore County Tourism Council, Baltimore County Personnel and Salary Advisory Board.

In 2017, Nancy was elected as the first women officer of the Towson Elks Lodge in over 100 years.

In 2016 Nancy was honored to be awarded Baltimore County's Woman of the Year.



David Johnston
Supervisory Protective Security Advisor
Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency

Dave Johnston serves as a Supervisory Protective Security Advisor with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) working with the States of Maryland & Delaware and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

He serves as a security and resiliency liaison between federal, state, local and industry partners across the public and private sectors; ensuring the protection of America's critical infrastructure with a focus on the convergence of physical and cyber security.

As a leader with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security since the organization's inception in 2002, Mr. Johnston has been involved in aviation, maritime law enforcement, security, and contingency operations worldwide.

Prior to his position with CISA, Dave served as a career officer and aviator with the United States Military.

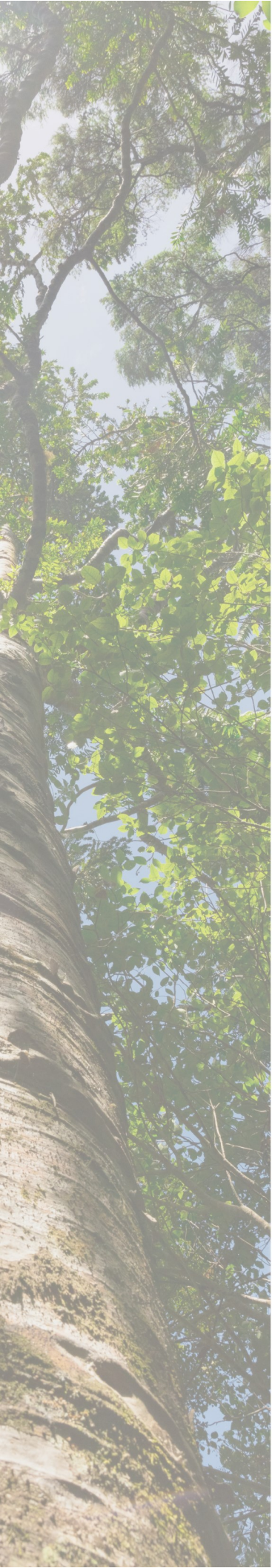


Corporal Sean Leary
Executive Board Member Global Shield Network
Baltimore County Police

Sean Leary is a remarkable individual with a distinguished career in law enforcement and homeland security. In 2020, Sean applied for and was selected for the Criminal Intelligence and Homeland Security Section, where he was promoted to the Team Leader of the Homeland Security Team. In this role, he supervised task force officers assigned to the National Security Task Force and the Joint Terrorism Task Force. Additionally, Sean serves as the Baltimore County Police Department Counter-Terrorism program manager and contributes to the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council for the State of Maryland. He is also an Executive Board member for the Global Shield Network, which fosters information sharing and intelligence dissemination among public and private stakeholders in the fight against terrorism.

Sean's expertise extends to critical infrastructure protection, holding a certification in Critical Infrastructure Protection from Texas A&M University. As part of the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC) critical infrastructure protection sub-committee, he conducts security and vulnerability assessments for significant sites such as the annual Maryland State Fair, Maryland Army and Air National Guard entities in Baltimore County, and key infrastructure sites. By identifying vulnerabilities and providing risk mitigation options, Sean's efforts contribute to enhancing target hardening and ensuring the safety of critical assets.

Throughout his career, Sean has demonstrated his commitment to public safety and emergency preparedness. He conducts active assailant training, table-top exercises, and has played a role in planning and developing full-scale exercises. His leadership abilities were showcased in the successful coordination and spearheading of planning sessions for the Women's World Lacrosse Games, a significant international event hosted by various organizations and agencies.



Earlier in his career, Sean served on the US Marshal's Warrant Apprehension Task Force, where he played a pivotal role in apprehending violent felons wanted on active arrest warrants. He has also served as a Detective Corporal, investigating commercial armed robberies, kidnappings, and carjacking cases. Sean supervised the "Bank Squad," collaborating with the FBI Violent Crime Task Force on bank robbery and armored car robbery investigations.

Sean's dedication and professionalism are evident throughout his career progression. He has served in administrative roles, including staff scheduling and overseeing the Evidence Management Unit, where he was responsible for the proper chain of custody and disposition of drug evidence, as well as managing significant amounts of seized money.

Prior to his law enforcement career, Sean served in the United States Army, where he achieved numerous accolades and honors. He was selected for the prestigious United States Army Presidential Honor Guard, which involved guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, precision drill team performances, and the Presidential Salute Battery. Following his Honorable Discharge from active duty, Sean pursued his dream of becoming a law enforcement officer. He excelled academically, received scholarships, and graduated with distinction from the Community College of Baltimore County, majoring in Criminal Justice.

Sean's unwavering dedication, extensive experience, and leadership roles in law enforcement and homeland security highlight his commitment to safeguarding communities and protecting critical infrastructure. His contributions have made a significant impact in the field, earning him recognition and respect among his peers.



Marcia Deppen
Director of Consequence Management
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

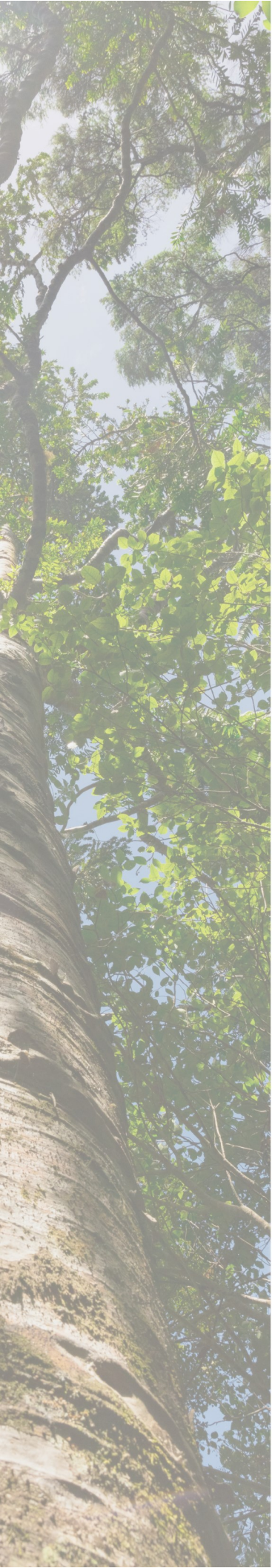
Marcia Deppen was appointed as the Director of Consequence Management in 2019 by Secretary Russell J. Strickland. Ms. Deppen has been working for the Maryland Department of Emergency Management for 10 years.

In this role, Ms. Deppen oversees the Consequence Management Directorate which includes the emergency management functions of planning, training, exercise and response. It also includes our 24 hour watch center, the State WebEOC program, our State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and multiple operational grants, which support terrorism and school emergency preparedness.

Ms. Deppen has over 22 years of emergency management experience. Her emergency management expertise consists of training development and delivery, exercise development and facilitation, Emergency Operations Center command, planning and resource management. Before her appointment, Ms. Deppen also served as a Training and Exercise Administrator and the Training and Exercise Branch Manager at MDEM.

Prior to her employment at MDEM, Ms. Deppen worked at the New Castle County, Delaware Office of Emergency Management as a Radiological Planner. She also served as the Director of Emergency Services at the American Red Cross of the Delmarva Peninsula and most recently the Emergency Manager at the University of Delaware Department of Public Safety.

Ms. Deppen has a Master of Science degree in Sociology/Disaster Management from the University of Delaware. She also earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology and Women's Studies from the University of Delaware.



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Bethany Brown
Deputy Chief of the Division of Administrative Operations
Maryland Department of Human Services

Bethany Brown is the Deputy Chief of the Division of Administrative Operations, Office of Emergency Operation, at the Maryland Department of Human Services. This position provides leadership for the coordination of the state-level human service response and recovery activities as tasked by the State Emergency Operations Plan, including but not limited to: mass care, sheltering, feeding, repatriation, emergency people search and disaster recovery casework services. Ms. Brown started her career in disaster response with the American Red Cross in 2006, and moved to the Maryland Department of Human Services to continue emergency response work in 2012. Ms. Brown is the State repatriation coordinator, and has led multiple task forces and committees, including the statewide emergency feeding task force. She has been on-scene and participated in response efforts for several hundred disasters of all scales and types, including floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, fires and emerging infectious diseases.



Chief David J Bycoffe
Director of Homeland Security and Emergency
Management
Baltimore County Office of Emergency Management

Chief Bycoffe was appointed Director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for Baltimore County in 2022. David has served as a member of the Baltimore County Fire Department for over 29 years. During his tenure, he served as the deputy incident commander for Baltimore County's COVID response. He also serves as Vice President of the Maryland Association of County's Emergency Management Affiliate. Chief Bycoffe has earned his Master's Degree in Emergency Management from University of Maryland Global Campus.



Andrea Gallegos-Montilla
Managing Director
SAMU First Response

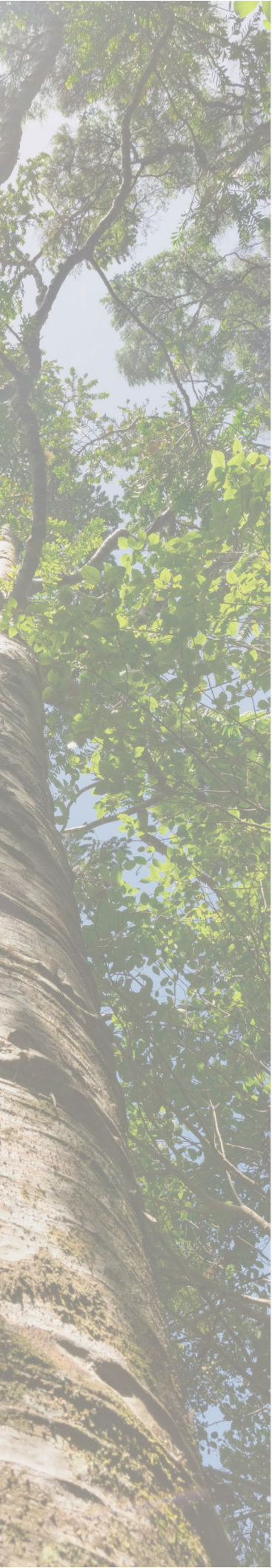
Andrea Gallegos-Montilla is a political scientist with 15 years of experience in international relations and program management, humanitarian aid, and education and service provision to migrant or low-income families. She is a multilingual Hispanic, committed to social service and impact projects. Her passion for helping others started early on as a teenager volunteering with organizations serving displaced and vulnerable populations, and has grown with experiences in Latin America, Eastern Africa, Europe, and the US.

Andrea has a Master's degree in International Relations from the University of Bologna (dual degree in Italy and Argentina, with a major in Latin American and European studies), and additional Professional Certificates in Social Impact Partnerships (Georgetown University), Child Development (CDA Council), Senior Management (Center for Nonprofit Advancement), and International Cooperation for Development (COSPE, Italy).

She has worked in a variety of roles in non-profit and international organizations in the DMV area, with particular emphasis in 2GEN programs, case management, parenting, and early childhood in different multi-cultural settings, Andrea has maintained her commitment to strengthening communities through collaborative partnerships that actively listen to the community and its stakeholders.

Currently, Andrea is the managing director of SAMU First Response, an NGO that serves vulnerable populations. The organization started with greeting migrants from buses at Union Station with limited resources, to now having two dedicated respite centers and a welcome center for migrants arriving in the United States.

She has also fostered a migrant emergency deployment program that is ready to support mass arrivals throughout the State and



special projects and collaborative responses to two emergencies in the United States with partners in Texas and Arizona.

Her dedication to the migrant population arriving in the United States is evident through the first response and integration programs she oversees, which have supported over 14,200 migrants, primarily from Latin America but from over 56 countries of origin. Andrea is passionate about ensuring that the reception of migrants is respectful, dignified, and culturally appropriate.



Dave Robbins
Risk and Recovery Branch Manager
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Dave Robbins came to the Maryland Department of Emergency Management in 2018 from an 18-year career with the Wildland Fire Management program of the Maryland DNR Forest Service. In his current position as Risk & Recovery Manager, he manages MDEM's Risk Analysis team and also coordinates disaster recovery-related efforts. The MDEM Risk Analysis team compiles and analyzes data from a multitude of sources, to provide real-time intelligence to support decision-making.



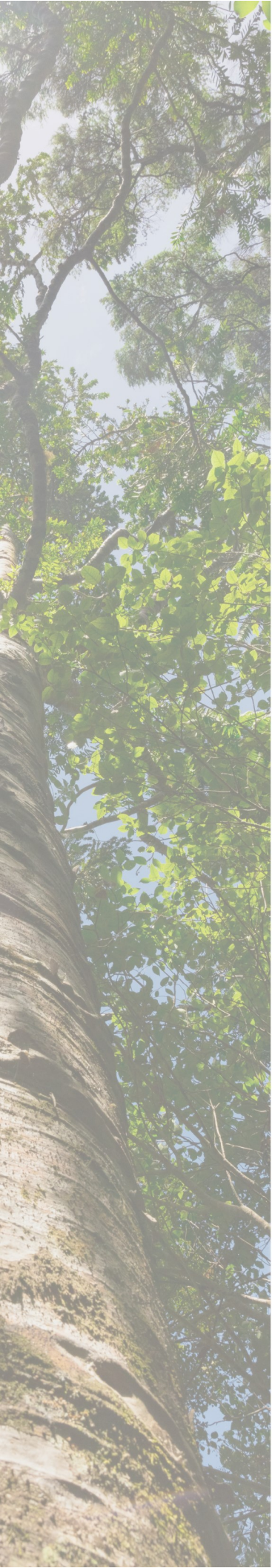
Joey Krastel
Meteorological Hazards Analyst
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Joey Krastel is a dedicated Meteorologist with a passion for mitigating disaster risks and leveraging meteorological expertise to support decision-making processes. Since early 2019, Joey has been an asset to the Maryland Department of Emergency Management, where he serves as a Disaster Risk Analyst.

With a background in Meteorology, Joey brings a deep understanding of weather patterns and their potential impact on communities. His specialized knowledge in weather risks has allowed him to provide critical decision support to the department, ensuring effective disaster preparedness and response strategies. Joey's keen eye for identifying potential hazards and assessing their potential consequences has been instrumental in safeguarding the well-being of Maryland residents. He has moved into a new position on the Risk Analyst Team as the Meteorological Hazards Analyst .

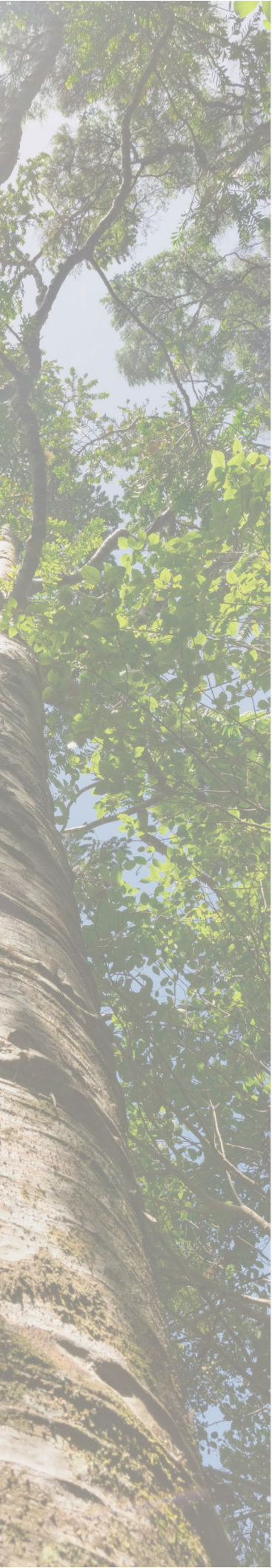
Joey is not only a skilled analyst but also the driving force behind the Maryland Mesonet system across the state. Recognizing the significance of improving weather monitoring capabilities, he championed the idea and worked to get the initiative into action. His passion and determination have been instrumental in pushing the project forward, laying the groundwork for the implementation of the Maryland Mesonet.

Beyond his professional commitments, Joey's love for meteorology extends to his personal life as well. In his free time, he indulges in one of his favorite activities—tornado and hurricane chasing. This adventurous pursuit allows him to witness the raw power and beauty of these extreme weather events firsthand. Through his storm chasing experiences, Joey not only satisfies his passion but also gains valuable insights into the behavior of severe weather systems, reinforcing his meteorological expertise on the Risk Analysis Team.



Emily Eisenhauer
Social Scientist
Environmental Protection Agency

Emily Eisenhauer is a Social Scientist in the EPA Office of Research and Development's Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment, where she conducts research on community resilience, equity, and community capacity for adapting to environmental change. She earned her PhD in sociology at Florida International University in Miami, FL where she studied socio-ecological vulnerability to climate change and led community-based research collaborations on a wide range of community development issues including affordable housing and economic justice. At EPA she has played leading roles in furthering integration of social science research and community engaged research, and was the Agency Chapter Lead for the 5th National Climate Assessment chapter on Social Systems and Justice. Her current projects focus on supporting communities with tools for centering equity in resilience planning and adaptive capacity for increasing coastal resilience through nature-based solutions.



Raven Nee, MPS
ORISE Community Resilience and Equity Social Science Fellow
Environmental Protection Agency

Raven Nee, MPS is an ORISE Community Resilience and Equity Social Science fellow in US EPA's Office of Research and Development, Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment. Her background is in environmental studies and sustainable urban planning and she is especially interested in intersectional equity and climate resilience.



Noel Witzke
Private Sector Liaison - Region 3
Federal Emergency Management Agency

Noel Witzke is the Private Sector Liaison for the FEMA Region 3 External Affairs Division. A major facet of her role is to build relationships with public and private sector partners to increase two-way communication between these groups and varied sectors who play a role in the preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts in our Region 3 communities. She works closely with private sector partners and the State Private Sector Liaisons to educate, build trust, and expand the capabilities of our partners in the emergency management space. Noel has been with FEMA for about eight years.



Ariana Shockley
Branch Chief of Critical Infrastructure Protection
Maryland Coordinated Analysis Center

Ariana Shockley is the Branch Chief of Critical Infrastructure Protection, Shield Program Manager, and Fusion Liaison Officer Coordinator for Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC). Through the FLO Program and the Maryland Shield Network, Ariana engages in outreach with both public and private sector to connect stakeholders to local, state, and federal resources to support safer communities. Ariana is a Certified Master Trainer for the DHS National Threat Evaluation and Reporting Office's Threat Evaluation and Reporting Course and is also a certified Police Instructor through the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commission. She is also happy to serve as a co-chair for the North East Region of the TLO Program for NFCA.

Ariana received her Master of Arts degree in International Security from the University of Denver after graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Iowa State University.



**Steve Spillman
Special Agent
Federal Bureau of Investigation**

Steve Spillman is a special agent with the FBI since 2018. He works cyber-criminal matters including ransomware, botnets, cryptocurrency threats, and cyber stalking among others.



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