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31st ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S HURRICANE CONFERENCE® HONORS AWARD RECIPIENTS

*~ Recognized for contributions to Hurricane Preparedness, Response, Recovery, Mitigation Efforts
for the People of Florida ~*

WEST PALM BEACH, FL– The Governor's Hurricane Conference Board of Directors and participants marked the 31st Annual Governor's Hurricane Conference® today by gathering at a luncheon in West Palm Beach at the Palm Beach County Convention Center to honor nine award recipients for their various contributions towards hurricane preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation efforts at both the state and local level.

Innovation Award – presented to Russell Allen, Intelligent Transportation Systems Program Development Engineer/Florida 511 Project Manager for leadership and engineering prowess to innovate Florida's 511 Traveler Information System and provide real-time, lifesaving information to Floridians and visitors during hurricanes and other emergency situations.

Public Education/Public Information Award – presented to the Florida Department of Transportation 511 Traveler Information System for providing an essential tool to educate and inform the public with real-time, lifesaving information during the 2016 Hurricane Season and other emergency situations.

Dick Fletcher Media Award – presented to Denis Phillips, Chief Meteorologist, WFTS-TV/ABC Action News, Tampa, for demonstrating exceptional skills as a broadcast meteorologist and communicating information making it understandable to the layperson, with an on-air persona that exudes confidence and creates an atmosphere of trust with his audience.



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American Red Cross Award – presented to Cesar Rivera, Division Disaster State Relations Director, Florida, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Red Cross Southeast and Caribbean Division for more than 30 years of service, exemplifying the American Red Cross' commitment to the people they serve, and volunteers who assist in helping achieve its mission and fostering effective working relations with partners in hurricane preparedness and response.

Bob Lay Emergency Management Award – presented to the Florida Division of Emergency Management's Regional Coordination Team for a history of service above and beyond the call of duty, and excellence shown in assisting Florida's emergency management community.

Lifetime Achievement Award – presented to Rodney Andreasen, Director, Jackson County Emergency Management for 16 years of outstanding contributions and accomplishments in the field of hurricane preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation, while serving the residents and visitors of Jackson County and beyond.

Lifetime Achievement Award – presented to McCleary Frederick, Director, Hazard Management, Cayman Islands for pioneering, determination and commitment in the areas of hurricane preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation to make the Cayman Islands more hurricane resilient.

Governor's Award – presented to Linda Stoughton, Director, St. Johns County Emergency Management for proven success in providing the vision and guidance to ensure the residents and visitors of St. Johns County are prepared for hurricane threats, and for her service to Floridians and visitors with her years of leadership in the emergency management community.

Special Achievement Award – presented to Brian Misner, Emergency Services Manager, Prince William County, Virginia for exceeding expectations in service, and exceptional commitment to the goals of the Governor's Hurricane Conference®.

For more information about this year's conference, visit www.flghc.org, our GHC [blog](#), and see us on [Facebook](#).