

## **Alfred O. Bragg III**

Al Bragg served Florida as Assistant General Counsel for the Department of Community Affairs (DCA). During his extended tenure at DCA one of Al's responsibilities was to provide legal advice, direction and oversight to the Division of Emergency Management (DEM). Al provided guidance to DEM on a wide variety of programmatic issues and when the State Emergency Operations Center activated, Al served as a key advisor to the DEM Director in all aspects of operations and coordination with the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Al was extremely proficient in the legal aspects of emergencies and a student of the Stafford Act, Chapter 252 and related federal and state implementing rules and regulations. He was a proponent of using the logic of the law as an opportunity to reach an objective and fair decision and advised on the best method forward during complex situations with no clear "right or wrong" or established precedent. Fortunately for Florida, Al was available to us to apply this expertise during the historic 2004 Hurricane Season.

His love of all history, particularly military history, made for many great conversations during long activations. Al had a dry wit, a passion for flying, enjoyed model trains and the comradery of related affiliations and associations. He was a graduate of Duke University and the University of Georgia School of Law.

Never one to seek the limelight or recognition, Al served the Florida emergency management community tirelessly with dedication and commitment. Al passed away in 2005 at the age of 58; unfortunately, not time enough to share all his knowledge and stories.

The GHC Government and Legislative Achievement Award is named in Al's honor to reflect his legal expertise and ability to apply the law to improve Florida's statewide emergency management system.