

Speaker biographies, HSRP public meeting, Miami, FL, April 4-5, 2018

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Captain Ladonn Allen

Chief, U.S. Coast Guard



Captain LaDonn Allen has spent over 24 years as an active duty officer in the U. S. Coast Guard with a Marine Safety and Security career path. CAPT Allen has conducted operations ashore in Miami, Mobile, St. Louis, and Jacksonville, and held staff assignments at the Seventh Coast Guard District, Training Center Yorktown and a joint billet at the U.S. Northern Command. CAPT Allen is currently assigned to the USCG Seventh District in Miami, FL as the Prevention Chief, where she leads and promotes consistency in Prevention field operations for 21 shipping ports, 34 Caribbean nations and the world's three largest cruise ports for 7 Captains' of the Port and Officers' In Charge of Marine Inspection. CAPT Allen is a 1991 Graduate of the University of West Florida, has earned a Master's degree with honors in Homeland Security from

American Military University, attended Navy War College Professional Military Education and holds an Executive Leadership Certificate from the University of North Florida.

Mr. J. David Anderton II

Assistant Director, Port Everglades



As Assistant Director of Port Everglades', David Anderton provides oversight and direction for the development and implementation of short and long range strategic plans including facilities planning, engineering and construction, preventative maintenance, capital improvements programming and implementation of the 5-Year CIP totaling more than \$700 million, economic impact analysis, grants writing and administration, and coordination on federal and state legislative efforts. Port Everglades, a large deepwater port in South Florida, is one of the world's busiest cruise ports and a leader in cargo shipping. Mr. Anderton began at Port Everglades in 2002 with the Seaport Engineering & Construction Division,

assisting with the development of the 5-Year CIP and supporting project managers with technical planning assistance on tasks pertaining to project implementation. Mr. Anderton held senior positions with the consulting firms Post, Buckley, Schuh and Jernigan (now Atkins Global), Craig A. Smith & Associates, and the City of West Palm Beach. He was a legislative assistant and campaign coordinator for Florida Attorney General Robert A. Butterworth. These positions provided a vast array of experience in transportation and land use planning, residential and commercial development and the legislative process. Mr. Anderton

holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and History from Florida State University and a Master's in Urban and Regional Planning from Florida Atlantic University. He is registered with the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) through the American Planning Association and is certified as a Professional Port Manager (PPM) through the American Association of Port Authorities. He is a graduate of Leadership Florida Class 34.

Mr. Mike Aslaksen



Chief, Remote Sensing Division, National Geodetic Survey, NOS/NOAA

Mike Aslaksen is the Chief of NOAA's National Geodetic Survey's Remote Sensing Division. Mike has been with NOAA more than 25 years and has served in a variety of operational, technical, and policy positions ranging from performing field surveys supporting Nautical and Aeronautical Charting to serving as the Chief of Staff for NOAA's Ocean Service. Mike's education includes a Bachelor of Science from Old Dominion University and a Master of Science from The Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Larry P. Atkinson

Samuel and Fay Slover Professor of Oceanography, Department of Ocean, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Old Dominion University, Virginia



Prior to joining the faculty at Old Dominion University Larry was at the Skidaway Institute of Oceanography in Savannah, Georgia. He is a member of the Oceanography Society, the American Meteorological Society, the Marine Technology Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and a Fellow of the AAAS. He was editor of *Oceanography* (1993-1997) and Editor (1988 -1990) and Senior Editor of *Journal of Geophysical Research - Oceans* (1990-1992). He is the author or co-author of over 90 reviewed publications. He has served on and was chair of the Department of Interior Science Advisory Committee for Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas production. From 2001 to 2004 he was with the inter-agency Ocean.US office creating the integrated ocean observing system for the US. He was on the board of the

Mid-Atlantic Regional Association Coastal Ocean Observing Systems. He was chair of the National Science Foundation Ocean Observing Science Committee and is now the chair of their Ocean Observatories Initiative Facility Board. He is very active in the challenge of sea level rise and increased flooding risk in urban regions. Locally, he has been involved with coastal navigation issues with the local Virginia Maritime Association, the Virginia Port Authority and the National Ocean Service CO-OPS office in Chesapeake, VA. He was involved in the early offshore wind industry efforts off Virginia and

other coastal states when he worked with Fugro on bathymetry and interactions of currents and waves with offshore wind structures and cables. Research projects have taken him to many locations around the world including Chile, Japan, Spain, Gulf of Mexico, Columbia River mouth, fjords in British Columbia, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea, Tropical Atlantic, Antarctic, US East coast and Santa Barbara Basin.

Ms. Juliana P. Blackwell

Director, National Geodetic Survey, National Ocean Service, NOAA

Ms. Juliana P. Blackwell is the Director of NOAA's National Geodetic Survey (NGS). As

Director, she is responsible for the financial, administrative and programmatic performance of



NGS, the lead federal agency for positioning activities in the Nation. She oversees the management and delivery of the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS), the nation's consistent coordinate system for latitude, longitude, height, shoreline, gravity measurements and shoreline information throughout the United States. The NSRS supports a wide range of important activities including mapping and charting, navigation, flood risk determination, transportation, land use and ecosystem management. Ms. Blackwell serves as Chair of the Federal Geodetic Control Subcommittee of the Federal Geographic Data Committee, exercising government-wide leadership in the development and improvement of geodetic

surveying specifications, methods, instrumentation, and data transfers. She is a member of NOAA's Hydrographic Services Review Panel, a federal advisory committee providing advice to the NOAA Administrator on matters related to hydrographic services. She represents NOAA on the interagency Alaska Mapping Executive Committee and the 3D Elevation Program Executive Forum. A graduate of Tufts University, Ms. Blackwell earned a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics. She received a master's in business administration from the University of Maryland's Robert H. Smith School of Business.

Captain Richard Brennan

Chief, Hydrographic Surveys Division, Office of Coast Survey, NOAA NOS

Captain Brennan has served with the NOAA Corps for over 20 years, most recently as the chief of the Coast Survey Development Lab. He has sailed on nearly every hydrographic ship in the modern NOAA fleet. He has conducted surveys throughout U.S. waters, through the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean to the Gulf of Maine, and from the Oregon coast to Chukchi Cap in the Arctic Ocean.



Brennan's most recent sea assignment was as the commanding officer of the NOAA Ship *Rainier*, surveying Alaskan waters. Captain Brennan has also served as chief of Coast Survey's Atlantic Hydrographic Branch and as the mid-Atlantic navigation manager. Earlier, Brennan pursued a Master of Science degree in ocean engineering at the University of New Hampshire's Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping, specializing in ocean mapping, acoustics, and tidal error models. He led the Hydrographic Systems and Technology Program at NOAA, with a focus on transitioning new technology into fleet operations. Captain Brennan graduated from the Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina, with a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering. He completed the Harvard Kennedy School Senior

Executive Fellows program in 2013.

Dr. W. Russell Callender

Assistant Administrator, National Ocean Service, NOAA



Dr. W. Russell Callender is the Assistant Administrator for NOAA's National Ocean Service. The National Ocean Service (NOS) is the nation's most comprehensive ocean and coastal agency. Its mission is to provide science-based solutions through collaborative partnerships to address evolving economic, environmental and social pressures on our oceans and coasts. The agency observes, measures, assesses, and manages the nation's coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes areas; provides critical navigation products and services; and conducts response and restoration activities to protect vital coastal resources. As Assistant Administrator, Dr. Callender provides strategic vision for NOS. He leads the implementation of activities that support NOS's priorities of coastal resilience, coastal intelligence, and place-based conservation. He serves as the focal point for conveying the value of NOS products and services within NOAA and to the Department of Commerce, the Office of Management and Budget, and Congress. Dr. Callender actively establishes and grows partnerships with other federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, and industry. Dr. Callender brings more than 20 years of science, policy, and management.

Dr. Samantha Danchuk, PH.D., P.E.

**Assistant Director, Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department,
Environmental Planning and Community Resilience Division, Broward County**



Dr. Samantha Danchuk is the Assistant Director of the Environmental Planning & Community Resilience Division of Broward County where she leads the implementation of the County's Climate Action Plan and the Energy and Sustainability program activities. The program is focusing on increasing the business community's interest in energy efficiency and promoting renewable energy installations, inspiring and training new Climate Ambassadors and providing resiliency policy and planning technical support to the region. As a staff steering committee member for the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact, the four-county climate and adaptation strategy collaborative, she led the workgroup to develop the unified sea

level rise projection update and provided support for the Resilient Redesign and Regional Climate Action Plan workshops. With expertise in coastal engineering, she serves as a technical resource for several interagency efforts including the USACE Resilience Study, the White House's Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative exchange program, the Area Contingency Planning Committee, as staff for the Climate Change Task Force and as chair for NOAA's Climate and Marine Resources Task Force. Dr. Danchuk earned a doctorate from Louisiana State University, a Masters from UC Berkeley and a B.S. from Florida State University in the fields of environmental engineering and computational fluid dynamics (coastal modeling).

Mr. Steve Detwiler

Whole Community Recovery Planner, Miami-Dade County, FL Office of Emergency Management

Mr. Steve Detwiler is currently working with the Miami-Dade County, FL, Office of Emergency Management as the Whole Community Recovery Planner. He is responsible for the EOC Infrastructure Branch, the Public-Private Partnership Program and the Recovery Program. Mr. Detwiler also coordinates the activities of Emergency Support Function (ESF) 1 (Transportation), ESF 12 (Energy) and ESF 18 (Business and Industry). This includes maintaining the ESF Annexes and coordinating the activities of the lead and support agencies. Mr. Detwiler previously worked with the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the Region 9 office in Oakland, CA, as a Watch Analyst/Operational Planner responsible for providing 24-hour situation awareness to the Regional staff on disasters (hurricanes, earthquakes, tsunamis, terrorism, etc). At FEMA he also served as an Operational Planner and assisted on regional plans and exercises. He worked for seven years with the Orange County, FL, Office of Emergency Management as both the Planner and the Assistant Manager and served as the Deputy EOC Director for numerous activations (including 2004 Hurricane Season). He started

his emergency management career in 2000 with Marasco Newton Group (SRA International) as an Emergency Management Analyst. He worked on several consulting projects to include the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Catastrophic Exercise Program and the District of Columbia Post-9/11 Emergency Management Program improvements.

Mr. Richard Edwing

Director, Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services, National Ocean Service, NOAA

Richard Edwing is the director of [NOAA's Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services](#) (CO-OPS), the nation's authoritative source for accurate, reliable and timely water-level and current measurements. In his role, he oversees and continues to improve this 24-hour a day operation to provide mariners, coastal managers, and many other users with real-time data on ocean conditions along America's 95,000-mile coastline. Edwing's career with NOAA spans three decades with much of that time spent advancing NOAA's navigation services mission to provide the nation with up-to-date ocean, weather, mapping and positioning data and tools for safe transits to and from U.S. ports. He started with NOAA in 1976 in the Marine Boundary Program, a partnership between NOAA and coastal states to establish tidal data such as base elevations in sensitive wetland areas vulnerable to urban growth. He later advanced through various positions in the field and at NOAA headquarters, including several years as division chief of the National Ocean Service's policy, planning and analysis division, where he shaped NOAA's priorities for ocean issues, as well as identified budget needs to advance and modernize ocean science for the twenty-first century. Graduating in 1976 from George Washington University, Edwing earned a Bachelor of Science degree in oceanography, and later completed graduate level work in civil engineering at the University of Maryland. For two hundred years, CO-OPS and its predecessor agencies have provided the critical oceanographic data needed to protect life, property, and the marine environment. Today, the Center manages NOAA's Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System, the National Water Level Program, and National Current Observation Program—major national systems critical to keeping America's oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes safe, healthy and productive.



Rear Admiral Tim Gallaudet, Ph.D., USN Ret.

Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, and Acting Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, NOAA



Timothy Gallaudet, Ph.D., was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on October 5, 2017, as the assistant secretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere for the Department of Commerce in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Dr. Gallaudet was previously a rear admiral in the U.S. Navy, where his most recent assignment was Oceanographer of the Navy and Commander of the Navy Meteorology and Oceanography Command. During his 32 years of military service, Dr. Gallaudet has had experience in weather and ocean forecasting, hydrographic surveying, developing policy and plans to counter illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing, and assessing

the national security impacts of climate change. He has led teams of Navy sailors and civilians performing such diverse functions as overseeing aircraft carrier combat operations, planning and conducting humanitarian assistance and disaster response efforts, assisting Navy SEAL Teams during high visibility counter-terrorism operations, and developing the Navy's annual \$52 billion information technology, cyber security and intelligence budget. Dr. Gallaudet holds a bachelor's degree from the U.S. Naval Academy and master's and doctoral degrees from Scripps Institution of Oceanography, all in oceanography.

The Honorable Kristin Jacobs

Florida House of Representatives, 96th District



Kristin Jacobs is a member of the Florida House of Representatives. Her journey began as president of her neighborhood homeowners' association, and she was later elected to four terms on the Broward County Commission, serving several times as Mayor. Jacobs' collaborative approach to politics led to landmark initiatives, many heralded as national models, including the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact, a four-county effort to address climate change, and a Tri-County Compact that helped the three largest counties in southeast Florida pursue shared interests. Currently, she serves as Democratic Ranking Member on both the Natural Resources and Public Lands Subcommittee and the Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee.

The Honorable Chip LaMarca

Broward County Commission



Chip LaMarca, a lifelong resident of Broward, represents coastal communities in Commission District 4. He has earned a reputation as a citizens' advocate and voice for Broward's taxpayers, veterans, first responders, and pets. Commissioner LaMarca had a long career in the construction industry prior to the 2006 founding of his own firm, LaMarca Construction. He was elected to the Lighthouse Point City Commission in 2005 and the County Commission in 2010 and 2014. As a Republican who is outspoken on the environment, Commissioner LaMarca is particularly focused on coastal issues, such as sea level rise and resilient infrastructure. He and his wife Eileen reside in Lighthouse Point with their two rescue dogs.

Mr. James F. Murley

Chief Resilience Officer, Regulatory and Economic Resources Department, Miami-Dade County



James F. Murley was appointed Chief Resilience Officer for Miami-Dade County by Mayor Carlos Gimenez in November 2015. Miami-Dade County, in partnership with the Cities of Miami Beach and Miami, joined the international 100 Resilient Cities network in May 2016. Jim previously worked at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Coastal Management Program and served as Secretary of the Department of Community Affairs under Governor Lawton Chiles and was appointed Chair of the Florida Energy and Climate Commission by Governor Charlie Christ. He served as Executive Director of 1000 Friends of Florida, spent over 10 years with Florida Atlantic University overseeing research on urban and environmental issues, and served as Executive Director of the South Florida Regional Planning Council. Jim is a founding member of the Miami River Commission and Resiliency Florida and a current Board member of The Florida Ocean Alliance and the Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association (SECOORA). He is also a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration.

Mr. Anthony Reynes

Marine Program Leader, National Weather Service Miami, NOAA



Mr. Anthony “Tony” Reynes serves as a Lead Forecaster for the NWS office in Miami. He started a National Weather Service career at the San Juan Puerto Rico office in 2000, becoming a forecaster and working in El Paso, Texas, Honolulu, Hawaii, Tampa Bay, Florida, and Miami, Florida over the last 17 years. He specialized in outreach and promoting safety, especially with Spanish speaking communities. In 2013, Mr. Reynes was presented with the Charles Anderson Award from the American Meteorological Society for his exemplary outreach work with Hispanic communities around Central Florida. He has also worked very closely with County and State departments during active tropical cyclone

operations, including providing extensive Decision Support Services through the 2015 historic hurricane season in Hawaii, performing many briefings and live interviews with Hawaii's Governor and other State officials. Mr. Reynes is very excited to return to Florida and to foster strong relationships with the marine community in South Florida by promoting safety and preparedness, especially after the impacts of hurricane Irma. He holds a Master's Degree in Meteorology from the University of Hawaii.

Rear Admiral Shepard M. Smith

Designated Federal Officer, HSRP; and Director, Office of Coast Survey, NOS, NOAA



Rear Admiral Shepard M. Smith became the director of the Office of Coast Survey (OCS) on August 26, 2016. Hallmarks of his career have been his leadership in the modernization of NOAA's charting systems and transformation of NOAA's hydrographic technologies. That leadership and experience are now be applied to expanding Coast Survey's data capabilities and supporting a data-enabled maritime economy. Smith returns to Coast Survey as commanding officer of NOAA Ship *Thomas Jefferson*, on which he served three tours during his NOAA career. Smith became NOAA's first commanding officer to operationalize unmanned surface

vehicles for mapping shallow areas previously inaccessible and uncharted. He served as the chief of Coast Survey's Marine Chart Division where he changed the nation's charting tradition by restructuring chart production and distribution. That modernization made U.S. navigational data more accessible to the public through a wider range of electronic formats, faster and more

accurately. During ship assignments, he surveyed Alaska on NOAA Ship *Rainier*, was on the interagency response teams for the search and recovery of TWA flight 800, Egypt Air flight 990, the private plane piloted by John F. Kennedy, Jr., and commanded *Thomas Jefferson*, under his command, was awarded a Commerce Gold Medal for heroism and lead the six-week response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. He has a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering from Cornell University. He has a master of science in ocean engineering in 2003, and completed the IHO Category “A” program, both at the University of New Hampshire.

Capt. Sam Stephenson, J.D.

President, Florida Harbor Pilots Association



Captain Stephenson, J.D. is a USCG – Master Mariner of Any Gross Tons and an active harbor pilot for Port Everglades, Florida. In addition, he has over 44 years of pleasure craft experience on power and sailboats. Captain Stephenson has over 18 years experience in civil and criminal cases in both federal and state courts involving pleasure crafts and commercial vessels. Cases have involved collisions, allisions, groundings, rules of the road, shiphandling, maritime boundary disputes, pilot ladder regulations, narrow channels, personal injury, piloting, and electronic patent litigation, etc. Prior to becoming a Port Everglades pilot, Captain Stephenson served as the Commandant of Cadets at Texas A&M at Galveston,

Captain on the United States Training Ship Texas Clipper II, and years of experience as captain on various types of ships. He is a lead instructor at Resolve Maritime Academy in Fort Lauderdale, and has developed senior level courses. He is the President of the Florida Harbor Pilots and in 2015 was appointed to the USCG-Navigation Safety Advisory Council.

Mr. Terry Thornton

Senior Vice President, Port Operations, Guest Care, and Carnival International, Carnival Cruise Line



Mr. Terry Thornton's background in the cruise industry spans almost 40 years beginning with financial and marketing positions at Norwegian Cruise Line. He then moved on to spend five years at Sea Goddess, where as one of the founders, Thornton played an integral role in launching that new cruise line. He served as Vice President of Finance for Windstar Cruises for two years prior to joining Carnival Cruise Line in 1989 as the marketing team Manager of Special Projects. He is currently Senior Vice President - Port Operations, Guest Care and Carnival International. He represents the Florida - Caribbean Cruise Association as Chairman of the Marketing Committee.

Mr. Christopher Vaughan

Geospatial Information Officer, Federal Emergency Management Agency



Chris Vaughan serves as the FEMA Geospatial Information Officer where he champions and coordinates geospatial technologies across multiple response and recovery programs.

In order to meet strategic goals and priorities, Chris works effectively across federal, military, state, local, and tribal communities to promote geospatial programs, technology, and institutional structures and share best practices.

Mr. Vaughan has a Master of Science in Counseling Psychology from Lee University and is a graduate of American University's Key Executive Leadership Certificate Program.