



## **Emergency Management Strategy, Operations, and Tactics for Tornadoes**

March 24<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm-2:00pm ET

Presented by: **Jonathan Gaddy**, Deputy Director and Chief of Staff of the Alabama Emergency Management Agency

**Presentation Abstract:** Tornadoes pose a deadly and challenging threat to much of the US. Emergency managers must approach each severe weather episode with an eye toward community preparedness, unique response and readiness considerations, and an expectation that each event could result in significant impacts. This presentation will provide (a) an overview of the tornado threat; (b) an introduction to tools and information available to equip the emergency manager to address the community resilience, stakeholder readiness, and disaster operations issues driven by the tornado threat; and (c) specific examples of strategies and tactics to employ in tornado and severe weather disaster response and recovery operations. Lessons learned presented during this presentation will be taken from Alabama, which currently leads the nation in tornado fatalities since 1950, and which endured and recovered from the catastrophic April 27, 2011 tornado outbreak one decade ago.

**Speaker Bio:** Jonathan Gaddy is Deputy Director and Chief of Staff of the Alabama Emergency Management Agency. Mr. Gaddy has responded

to numerous federally declared disasters both in Alabama and around the nation, and previously served as a local emergency manager. In addition to his duties at the Alabama EMA, he teaches as an adjunct instructor for Jacksonville State University's emergency management program and is a member of a federal disaster medical response team. Mr. Gaddy is a past president of the Alabama Association of Emergency Managers (AAEM) and has served as a liaison to FEMA's training programs (EMI) for IAEM, in addition to serving on IAEM's Government Affairs and Training and Education committees. He has a degree in geography from Jacksonville State University and completed the homeland defense and security master's program at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School.