

Presentation Title: The Disasters that Define Us: The disasters that influenced me and their lessons for all of us



Dr. Daniel Kaniewski is Managing Director, Public Sector at global professional services firm Marsh McLennan (NYSE: MMC). In addition to his role at Marsh McLennan, he is chair of the Committee on Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate at the National Institute of Building Sciences, a Senior Fellow at the McCrory Institute for Cyber and Critical Infrastructure Security, and an advisor to Juvare, developer of the market-leading emergency management software WebEOC.

From 2017-2020 Dr. Kaniewski was the second-ranking official at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). As the agency's first Deputy Administrator for Resilience, he launched and led the disaster resilience programs that are now a cornerstone of FEMA's mission. Dr. Kaniewski was Special Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Senior Director for Response Policy in the George W. Bush Administration, where he managed over 200 Presidential disaster declarations at the White House. He holds a Ph.D. in Public Policy and Administration from George Washington University, an M.A. in National Security Studies from Georgetown University, and a B.S. in Emergency Medical Services from George Washington University.

About the Presentation

In this presentation, Dr. Daniel Kaniewski, a former senior FEMA leader and White House official, will describe his firsthand experiences with 9/11, Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Maria, and the pandemic and the lessons that he and the nation took from these disasters. Weaving in personal stories, operational details, and public policy actions, Dr. Kaniewski will elucidate lessons applicable not just to those disasters but to any catastrophic event. Only by learning these lessons will history not repeat itself in the future.