

# **Makyla Grant**

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## NON-COMPETITIVE DIVISION

### Responder Safety in Austere Conditions

Austere conditions can be naturally occurring due to remote locations and/or harsh environments such as seen in places like the Arctic or can occur anywhere due to disaster situations. Austere conditions present additional and unique hazards to the population as well as emergency responders that help others in times of need. While observationally there is an increased risk to emergency responders in austere conditions, there is little data available to totally understand the scope of the risk or to determine the most efficient mitigation practices to protect this valuable resource in time of need. Elizabeth City State University (ECSU) has worked to conduct a mixed method Delphi study to examine the safety issue of both traditional and non-traditional emergency responders in austere conditions with the intent to better understand the risks as well as the potential mitigation aspects of the problem.

**Presentation Theme:** Examining disaster safety issues of both traditional and non-traditional emergency responders in austere conditions.

**Collaborators, Advisor(s) and Department(s) that assisted with this research:** Makyla Grant; Joseph Cole; Aprylee Brown; Advisors

Dr. Kevin Kupietz; Department: ECSU Department of Aviation and  
Emergency Management; Arctic Domain Awareness Center (ADAC)

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**Institutional Review Board Proof of regulatory committee approval, if  
required:** ECSU IRB Approved