

# PUGET SOUND MARITIME DISASTER RESILIENCE VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

September 9, 2021 | 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

## Featured Speakers



### **JASON BIERMANN**

**DIRECTOR**

**SNOHOMISH COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Having worked in a variety of emergency management roles in Washington, Wyoming, and Texas, combined with his extensive military service, Jason brings nearly three decades of diverse leadership, management, and emergency management experience to the Snohomish County Emergency Management department. During his tenure with Snohomish County, Jason supported the response and recovery efforts to multiple disasters including the 2014 SR-530 (Oso) Flooding and Mudslides, the Okanogan Complex fire in 2015, and the first confirmed case of COVID-19 in the United States in January, 2020.

Jason advocates tirelessly for emergency management. He represents local emergency management organizations on the Washington State Governor's Emergency Management Council and on the Emergency Management Advisory Group, which advises the State Emergency Management Division's Director. He serves as a Board Member for the Northwest Washington Chapter of the American Red Cross and for the Northwest Healthcare Response Network, which serves to enhance the preparedness of healthcare systems in western Washington.



### **BRENDAN MCCLUSKEY**

**DIRECTOR**

**KING COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Brendan McCluskey is the Director of Emergency Management for King County. King County Emergency Management is responsible for regional emergency preparedness and operations, including mitigation, response, and recovery, and a variety of homeland security matters. Mr. McCluskey oversees all functions of the organization, from planning, to public outreach, to grant management, to operations coordination and EOC operations. He is the County Executive's representative to the King County Emergency Management Advisory Committee, a designee to the State Emergency Management Advisory Group, and a core member of the Seattle UASI. Immediately prior to his current position, Mr. McCluskey was the Director of Emergency Management at the New Jersey Department of Health. In this role he oversaw the State's health emergency management, homeland security, and intelligence capabilities, including Emergency Support Function (ESF) #8. Programs under his leadership included BioWatch, medical materiel management, Health Command Center, healthcare coalitions, and public health emergency preparedness. He was liaison to the State Office of Emergency Management, Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, and the State's fusion center (ROIC). He led the Department's cooperative agreements of over \$21 million annually for the Hospital Preparedness Program and Public Health Emergency Preparedness program, plus a multi-million dollar Ebola and infectious disease preparedness supplemental grant. Mr. McCluskey was a commissioner on New Jersey's Commission On Radiation Protection (CORP), the Department's designee to the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), and a Task Force Officer on the FBI Newark Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF).



**AMY LUCAS**  
**COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PROGRAM MANAGER**  
**SNOHOMISH COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Amy Lucas is the Community Resilience Program Manager at Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management, and the project manager for the FY 2019 Puget Sound Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program. With a background in Healthcare, Infrastructure, and Land Use planning, she is working with regional partners and agencies to build greater resiliency and emergency response capacities within Snohomish County and its cities.



**ANGIE DE GROOT**  
**SENIOR RESEARCH SCIENTIST**  
**CNA**

Angie is a senior research scientist at CNA, a nonprofit research and analysis organization based in Arlington, Virginia. She is also the CNA project manager for the Puget Sound Community Points of Distribution (CPOD) geospatial analysis and planning initiative. Angie's work at CNA focuses on homeland security, emergency management, and public health preparedness.



**DANIEL EUNGARD**  
**SUBSURFACE LEAD & TSUNAMI HAZARDS GEOLOGIST**  
**WASHINGTON GEOLOGICAL SURVEY**

Daniel is the subsurface lead and tsunami hazards program data manager. He is responsible for maintaining and expanding the geospatial databases for both programs. He is a subject matter expert on tsunami science, working with local, state, and federal partners to improve public understanding of risk and encourage mitigation efforts in Washington state. His responsibilities at WGS include maintaining the subsurface database and tsunami program's data producing pedestrian evacuation models, and public outreach on tsunami hazards.



**MAXIMILIAN DIXON**  
**HAZARDS AND OUTREACH PROGRAM SUPERVISOR**  
**WASHINGTON STATE MILITARY DEPARTMENT,**  
**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION**

Maximilian Dixon is the Hazards and Outreach Program Supervisor for the Washington State Military Department's Emergency Management Division (WA EMD). He manages the Earthquake, Tsunami, Volcano, Public Education, Preparedness and Outreach Programs and represents WA EMD as the subject matter expert and policy advisor on geological hazards, preparedness and outreach issues. Maximilian is responsible for coordinating geological hazard risk reduction efforts between international, federal, state, tribal, and local partners. He leads the Operations Section for the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). Maximilian is on the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program (NTHMP) Coordinating Committee and the Advanced National Seismic System (ANSS) Steering Committee. He is a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM®) and a recipient of the Governor's Award for Leadership in Management. He received his bachelor's degree and two master's degrees from the University of Washington.



**STEPHEN FLYNN**  
**DIRECTOR**  
**GLOBAL RESILIENCE INSTITUTE**  
**NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY**

Dr. Stephen Flynn is Founding Director of the Global Resilience Institute at Northeastern University where he leads a major university-wide research initiative to inform and advance societal resilience in the face of growing human-made and naturally-occurring turbulence. He is a Professor of Political Science with affiliated faculty appointments in the College of Engineering and the School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs. Professor Flynn has previously served as President of the Center for National Policy and spent a decade as a senior fellow for National Security Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations. He has presented expert congressional testimony before the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives on 31 occasions. Dr. Flynn was an active duty commissioned officer in the U.S. Coast Guard for 20 years, including two tours as commanding officer at sea. He is co-author of the textbook, *Critical Infrastructures Resilience: Policy and Engineering Principles* (2018), and author of *The Edge of Disaster: Rebuilding a Resilient Nation* (Random House, 2007), and the national bestseller, *America the Vulnerable* (HarperCollins 2004). In September 2014, he was appointed by Secretary of Homeland Security to serve a member of the Homeland Security Science and Technology Advisory Council (HSSTAC). He also serves as chair of the Massachusetts Port Authority Security Advisory Committee. Prof. Flynn holds the M.A.L.D. and Ph.D. degrees from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University and B.S. from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.



**MARK CURTIS**  
**DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**  
**CROWLEY MARITIME**

Mark Curtis has served in diverse roles across the maritime sector and in 2000 earned a BS in Maritime Safety and Environmental Compliance from Massachusetts Maritime Academy. During his time at the Academy, he participated in a GLOBEC Study on a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Vessel and worked in oil spill response, recovery, and training in Santa Barbara, California. He then moved on to Royal Caribbean Cruises, where he spent nine years at sea as a Vessel Environmental Officer & Engineering Compliance officer. After several other roles with Royal Caribbean, he joined Crowley Petroleum Services in 2018 as an Operations Integrity Manager. He now serves as the Director of Emergency Preparedness for Crowley.



**DICK MARZANO**  
**PORT OF TACOMA COMMISSIONER & CO-CHAIR,**  
**NORTHWEST SEAPORT ALLIANCE**

Dick Marzano is a Tacoma native and long-term Pierce County resident. Marzano worked as a Tacoma longshore worker for more than 52 years and served a six-year term as president of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 23. During his time as port commissioner, Marzano has remained focused on job creation and growing port operations in a sustainable and environmentally responsible manner.

Marzano serves on the executive committees of the Puget Sound Regional Council and the Puget Sound Gateway Program. He is a former member of the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board and previously served as president of the Washington Public Port Association. As President of the Port of Tacoma Commission, he also serves as co-chair of The Northwest Seaport Alliance, which manages the container, breakbulk, auto and some bulk terminals in Seattle and Tacoma.



**CAPTAIN PATRICK HILBERT**  
**SECTOR COMMANDER & CAPTAIN OF THE PORT**  
**U.S. COAST GUARD SECTOR PUGET SOUND**

CAPT Hilbert serves as the Commander, Coast Guard Sector Puget Sound. He reported aboard and took command in August 2020 after his most recent assignment as Chief of Prevention 17th Coast Guard District located in Juneau, AK.

CAPT Hilbert's previous operational tours include assignments as Deputy Commander, Sector Juneau where he led approximately 250 active duty, reserve, auxiliary, and civilian members with ten field commands and detachments; a Coast Guard Marine Inspector and the Assistant Port Safety and Security Branch Chief at Coast Guard Sector New York where he supervised more than 60 Coast Guard active duty and reservists to execute the Coast Guard's Port State Control program, vessel pre-arrival screening and manage facility, container and explosive load out inspection programs in the United States 2nd largest port; and Deck Watch Officer and First Lieutenant on USCGC RELIANCE where he supervised 21 personnel and conducted fisheries and illegal migrant law enforcement boardings in Coast Guard's Atlantic Area.



**JOHN VEENTJER**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
**MARINE EXCHANGE PUGET SOUND**

Captain John Veentjer, U.S. Coast Guard Retired, has been the Executive Director of Marine Exchange of Puget Sound since January 1, 2007. John is also the Chair of the Puget Sound Harbor Safety Committee (PSHSC), a member of the Puget Sound Area Maritime Security Committee (AMSC), a member of the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council, and a member of the General Committee for the Northwest Associations of Networked Ocean Observing Systems (NANOOS). John is a native of Portland, Oregon, a 1969 graduate of Benson Polytechnic High School and a 1973 graduate of the Coast Guard Academy. His Coast Guard assignments include: Commanding Officer, Long Range Aids to Navigation (LORAN) Station Sitkinak, Alaska; Port Safety and Security Branch in the Ninth Coast Guard District in Cleveland, Ohio; two consecutive assignments at Coast Guard Headquarters; Chief, Vessel Inspections and then Executive Officer of Marine Safety Office Puget Sound; Commanding Officer of Marine Safety Office/Group Philadelphia; and Chief, Marine Safety Division, Thirteenth Coast Guard District, Seattle, Washington. John retired from the Coast Guard at the end of 2001 after serving more than 28 years as a commissioned officer.

After retirement and before assuming the Executive Director position at the Marine Exchange, John served as a consultant in marine safety, security and environmental protection. He also served temporarily as a civilian employee, Chief of Vessel Inspections, at Coast Guard Marine Safety Office Puget Sound from June 2003 into October 2004.

## Panel Moderators



**BILL STEELE**  
**DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH**  
**PACIFIC NORTHWEST SEISMIC NETWORK, UW**

Bill Steele has directed the Educational Outreach and Communications Program for the Pacific Northwest Seismic Network (PNSN) at the University of Washington, since 1993. He works closely with news reporters and filmmakers to provide hazards information and coordinate scientist involvement in development accurate and interesting news reports and documentaries. Bill supports interdisciplinary and interagency cooperation between university, government agencies, and private sector organizations to identify earthquake and volcanic hazards, community vulnerabilities, and mitigation opportunities.

Bill also serves as the ShakeAlert Regional Coordinator for Washington, working to develop “ShakeAlert” earthquake early warning system powered mitigation solutions for businesses, utilities, and public agencies. Collaborating with companies and public agencies, Bill helps identify opportunities to implement automated loss reduction actions triggered by ShakeAlert before dangerous shaking arrives and provides technical assistance and referrals for implementation options.



**ERIC HOLDEMAN**  
**DIRECTOR**  
**CENTER FOR REGIONAL DISASTER RESILIENCE**

Eric Holdeman is the Director of the Center for Regional Disaster Resilience (CRDR), which is part of PNWER. His areas of expertise include building regional coalitions between agencies, governments, the private sector and non-profits. Building regional disaster resilience is key to what he does day-to-day. He has also authored numerous articles for professional journals and opinion pieces for local, regional and national newspapers. He is a Senior Fellow, columnist, contributing writer and blogger for Emergency Management Magazine. An experienced and accomplished public speaker, he is sought after to present at national and regional conferences. Eric has the United States' most popular blog on the topic of emergency management at [www.disaster-zone.com](http://www.disaster-zone.com).

Eric has an extensive work experience in the areas of emergency management and homeland security. He has worked as a Port Security Director for the Port of Tacoma, a “top ten” United States port, supervising 60 personnel and administering \$56M in Port Security Grants and projects. Previous to that he worked as a consultant for ICF International, a Fairfax, Virginia based consulting firm. Prior to joining ICF he was a local emergency management director for King County.



**BRANDON HARDENBROOK**  
**CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**  
**PACIFIC NORTHWEST ECONOMIC REGION**

Brandon Hardenbrook, serves as the Chief Operating Officer of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER),. His duties include overseeing all PNWER staff and programs in coordination with PNWER’s governing board, which includes legislative leadership of each state, province, and territory as well as governors and premiers, and private sector leaders. PNWER’s 22 working groups include trade & economic development, energy, border issues, agriculture, invasive species, tourism, disaster resilience, transportation, water policy and others. Before joining PNWER, Brandon served as an Army Air Defense Officer followed by several years in the healthcare industry. Brandon holds a Master’s degree in Public Administration from Seattle University and a Bachelor of Science from Pacific Lutheran University.