

Speakers

Eric Sarrafian

Eric Sarrafian is an Assistant City Attorney I, Prosecutor, for the City of Houston. An Attorney at Law since November 2003, he has worked on more than 200 jury trials. Before joining the City Attorney's office, he worked as an Assistant District Attorney in Del Rio, Texas. Prior to that, he worked as a software programmer and researcher. He is the recipient of the Most Innovative Award from the City of Houston and the Praemium Excellentia Award for Scholastic Excellence in Patents and Copyrights. Mr. Sarrafian earned his master's degree in Computer Science in 2000 and his Juris Doctorate in 2002.

Erin Livingston

Erin Livingston received her bachelor's degrees in Environmental Studies and Spanish from Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida. She worked as an Environmental Investigator with the Galveston County Health District before joining H-GAC as an Environmental Planner. She works with H-GAC's Regional Flood Management Council, the Natural Resources Advisory Committee, the Bacteria Implementation Group charged with developing a regional bacteria reduction plan for impaired watersheds, and the Upper Galveston Bay/Houston Ship Channel Dioxin/PCB TMDL projects, and the Community Rating System User Group: Floodplain Awareness Success in Texas.

Sponsors



Houston-Galveston Area Council
P.O. Box 22777
Houston, Texas 77227-2777
Phone: 713-627-3200
www.h-gac.com/community/water/rfmc

Raising Standards in the Floodplain



June 18, 2010

Agenda

- 10:30 – 11:00..... Registration
- 11:00 – 11:20..... Welcome & Lunch
Erin Livingston, Environmental Planner, Houston-Galveston Area Council
- 11:20 – 11:35..... Introduction to Higher Standards
Raymond Anderson, CFM, Deputy Director of the Permit Office, Harris County
- 11:35 – 12:05..... Benefits and Costs
Mark Lujan, CFM, Regional Manager, National Flood Insurance Program, Region VI
- 12:05 – 1:05..... Ordinance/Regulation Development & Promulgation Requirements
Debbie Cahoon, CFM, Flood Mitigation Planning Representative, Texas Water Development Board, Houston Region
- Donetta Walsh, CFM, Natural Hazards Program Specialist, National Flood Insurance Program, Region VI*
- 1:05 – 1:25..... Break
- 1:25 – 1:40..... A Word from Our Sponsors
PBS&J
- 1:40 – 2:10..... Public Education
Jamila C. Johnson, PE, CFM, Managing Engineer, City of Houston
- 2:10 – 2:55..... Enforcement: From the Compliance Manager’s Point of View
Raymond Anderson, PE, CFM, Deputy Director of the Permit Office, Harris County
- 2:55 – 3:25..... Enforcement: From the Attorney’s Point of View
Eric Sarrafian, Assistant City Attorney I, Prosecutor, City of Houston
- 3:25 Closing and Evaluations
Erin Livingston, Environmental Planner, Houston-Galveston Area Council

Speakers

Raymond Anderson, PE, CFM

Raymond Anderson is the Deputy Director of the Permit Office for Harris County. He has 23 years experience in Floodplain Management and is a State of Texas- and nationally- certified Floodplain Manager. He is a member of the Association of State Floodplain Managers and the Texas Floodplain Management Association. Prior to his current position, he served in various positions within Harris County’s Engineering Division, including Sanitarian and Manager of Compliance. Mr. Anderson received his bachelor’s degree in Engineering Technology from the University of Houston-Downtown and his master’s degree in Environmental Management from the University of Houston-Clear Lake. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Texas and member of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Mark Lujan, CFM

Mark Lujan, CFM, is currently the Regional Manager for the National Flood Insurance Program Region VI (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas). He is responsible for providing technical assistance and outreach to NFIP stakeholders on every level. Before becoming the Regional Manager, Mr. Lujan was an Insurance Specialist for FEMA and assigned to Hurricane Ike. He has been involved in the NFIP for several years.

Debbie Cahoon, CFM

Debbie Cahoon works for the Flood Mitigation Planning Division under the Texas Water Development Board as a field representative for the National Flood Insurance Program. She is based in the Houston area, and has 41 counties in her region with a total of 331 communities. Her nine years of experience in the floodplain industry include writing hazard mitigation plans,

revising ordinances, conducting technical training, coordination with FEMA, and assisting communities with disaster recovery (such as Hurricane Ike). She is active in the Texas Floodplain Management Association and is a member of the Membership Services Committee. Ms. Cahoon currently serves as an advisor for a new Community Rating System users group in the greater Harris County area.

Donetta Walsh, CFM

Donetta Walsh, CFM, is a Natural Hazards Program Specialist representing the National Flood Insurance Program in the Coastal Texas area. She has worked in Region VI since 2007, serving as a Hazard Mitigation Officer until beginning her current role in October 2008. A graduate of Southeastern Oklahoma State College in Wilburton, Oklahoma, she is a Certified Floodplain Manager and has worked in hazard mitigation in Florida, Alabama and Texas since 2000.

Jamila C. Johnson, PE, CFM

Jamila Johnson, PE, CFM, is a Managing Engineer at the City of Houston. Her responsibilities include managing the Floodplain Management Office and acting as Floodplain Administrator with the City of Houston. Prior to joining the City of Houston, she spent 15 years as a consulting engineer specializing in the development of Commercial Real Estate in Houston, Austin, Dallas, San Antonio and Tennessee. Her recent projects include Pearland Town Center and Gables West Ave. Born and raised in Detroit, Michigan, Ms. Johnson earned her bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, and her master’s degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Houston. She is a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Texas. She is also a Certified Floodplain Manager.