

Michael Spagnolo, CEM

FEMA Liaison National Hurricane Center

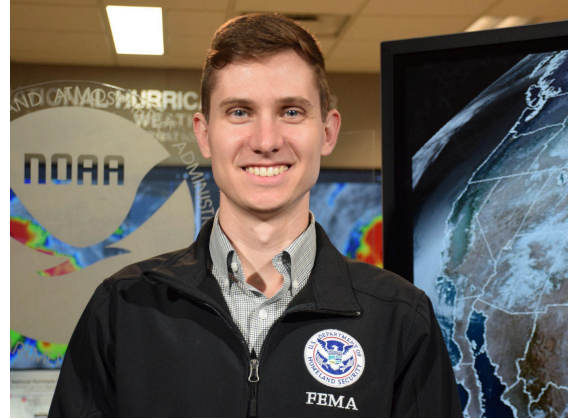
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Michael Spagnolo is the FEMA Liaison to the National Hurricane Center (NHC), serving as the Deputy Hurricane Liaison Team (HLT) Manager. Michael reports to the FEMA National Watch Center in Washington, D.C. and is part of a team of liaisons exchanged between FEMA and the National Weather Service. Michael joined FEMA in July 2022.

Michael facilitates and coordinates the exchange of information between the NHC and emergency managers in threatened areas. This exchange of information helps emergency managers make informed decisions and assists the NHC in providing decision support during tropical incidents. Michael also participates in preparedness training and outreach activities.

Prior to his role with FEMA, Michael was the Deputy State Meteorologist for over five years at the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM). At FDEM, he provided meteorological decision support to the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) for various incidents, including Hurricanes Irma, Michael, Dorian, and Sally, the 2017 and 2020 wildfire seasons, numerous tornado outbreaks and flooding incidents, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Surfside building collapse.

Michael is a certified Liaison Officer with Florida's All Hazard Incident Management Team and deployed to the field from the SEOC during the 2020 wildfires in Florida's Panhandle and during the COVID-19 vaccination operations.



Highlighting his expertise and involvement in all areas of emergency management, Michael has earned his Florida Professional Emergency Manager (FPEM) certification from the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association and his Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) accreditation from the International Association of Emergency Managers.

Michael received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Meteorology from the Pennsylvania State University. During his time at Penn State, he volunteered as an EMT for the Penn State University Ambulance Service where he first spent time in an EOC. From there, he was introduced to the important relationship between meteorologists and emergency managers. This has been his passion ever since.

In his free time, Michael volunteers as a Firefighter/EMT for the City of Plantation in Broward County. He has been an active EMT since 2015 and a firefighter since 2018, previously serving with Chaires-Caipola Fire Rescue in Tallahassee. Michael enjoys being a part of the other end of the response as a first responder in the field when able.

