

2016 THOMAS YATABE AWARDS - TAMPA BAY LEPC

Thomas Yatabe Awards are presented annually by each Local Emergency Planning Committee within the State to signify “*outstanding contribution(s) made in the implementation and support of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act.*” This year’s Thomas Yatabe Award for the Tampa Bay LEPC was presented to Mr. John Joyner of the Mosaic. Each of the nominations submitted for the Tampa Bay LEPC read as follows:



John Joyner

John Joyner - “As an informational and training opportunity, Mosaic partnered with community neighbors and emergency responders to simulate a potential hazardous material release exercise within the Port of Tampa Bay in March 2016. The planning began months in advance and included developing a scenario with community impacts to involve Tampa Fire Rescue, Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, and Tampa Bay Port Authority. Tampa Fire Rescue scheduled visits to the Hooker's Point Terminal to familiarize the potential responding units with the facility. In March, John arranged a full scale simulated exercise response with a fog machine to mimic the location of a hazardous material release on a vessel unloading arm. Due to the relationships and networking developed

through John, the drill had participation from a multitude of emergency response organizations and community neighbors. In addition to those participating in the exercise, John arranged an observation area near the exercise to allow others to observe and provide lessons learned. This was an outstanding experience for all agencies involved which included an after action review of the exercise with a summary from each agency providing feedback. Furthermore, an additional after action review to discuss the public relation mass communication planning for an emergency was scheduled with agencies' public relation representatives. This exercise touched on not only the response to a hazardous materials release but also emergency mass notifications, mass evacuation, sheltering in place, traffic control, perimeter security, media relations and much more. John organized, hosted and led the after action reviews for the full scale exercise in addition to ensuring that the facility employees were trained and have practiced HAZMAT technician response alongside community responders. Outside of this, John participates in several safety, response, and operational committees in the Tampa Bay area which shows his pride and devotion to his job. With many years in this field, John's commitment to the safety of Mosaic operations and of the community is easily seen in everything he does.”

Several other notable Nominations were also submitted. Each of these individuals have been awarded a *Certificate of Appreciation* from the State Emergency Response Commission for their meritorious contributions. Each of these individuals were asked to step forward and accept their deserving recognition.

Bert Williams - “Lt. Bert Williams has been with the Pinellas Park Fire Department since December 17, 1984. Lt. Bert Williams has exponentially raised the bar within our organization over his career and abroad by not just demanding excellence but helping anyone who asks. He teaches with unparalleled effectiveness. Thus, not only does Lt. Williams come with a tremendous wealth of knowledge and experience, but he has a natural ability to articulate and disseminate it so that others can grasp and fully apply it. Lt. Williams has been a respected senior leader on both the TRT and Hazmat teams for more than three decades. He is a vital part of our success on both teams. He is a quiet man who simply gets the job done whenever asked. He regularly attends county training, where he displays a professional attitude and has helped to organize our



Sandy Brooking accepted on behalf of Lt. Bert Williams

department's "in-house" technical rescue team training. Over the past year, Lt. Williams and his crew have handled two advanced rescue calls. T33 responded to the Pinellas County Incinerator Plant and performed a technical rescue using the "stokes" basket. The crew along with an engine company packaged an injured patient and were able to lower the victim down to an awaiting ambulance. On another occasion, Lt. Williams and his crew, along with TE34, responded to the water treatment facility in the Lealman Fire District. Lt. Williams and his crew were able to do a below grade rescue up and over the storage tank walls using the articulating boom of our now retired E-One Bronto. This is just some of his accomplishments."

Brooke Martin - "Ms. Martin has contributed to the hazardous materials response and planning programs in Florida through her work with CSX. On behalf of CSX, Ms. Martin has managed more than 40 hazardous and non-hazardous material responses in the State of Florida since 2015. In addition to her dedication to the safe transportation of goods throughout Florida and commitment to effective and protective emergency response, Ms. Martin has contributed to the enhancement of hazardous materials response capabilities to first responders throughout Florida through her leadership in the development and implementation of various Crisis Management Exercises throughout the State of Florida including Tampa (June 2016) and Gainesville (August 2015) and participation in the Volusia County Hazmat Symposium (January 2016)."



Oliver Greene - "The Tampa Bay LEPC selected the conduct of a biennial exercise as its FY 2015-16 HMEP Planning project. Not only was Oliver Greene instrumental as one of the exercise planning team members, he enlisted the participation of a key Tampa Emergency Management individual (John Antipasis) to admirably serve as the Logistics Chief for the exercise.

The exercise was of the tabletop/functional variety. The scenario involved the assumed derailment of several CSX railcars at the approximate boundary of unincorporated Hillsborough County and the City of Tampa. As a result of the fictitious derailment, five hazardous materials, including sulfuric acid (an EHS chemical), were released on the ground and into the water (Tampa Bypass Canal). Among other exercise objectives, response to the exercise injects resulted in the need for simulated implementation of road closures, invoking Shelter-in-Place strategies for the surrounding area and placement of boom in designated portions of the waterway. The exercise was held on June 21, 2016 at the Hillsborough County Sheriffs Office Training Center."



Nick LoCicero - "The Tampa Bay LEPC selected the conduct of a biennial exercise as its FY 2015-16 HMEP Planning project. Not only was Assistant Chief Nick LoCicero instrumental as one of the exercise planning team members, he recruited key Tampa Fire Rescue personnel to participate in the exercise, including Mark Abitabilo that served the the exercise's Incident Commander and Bryan Riley that served as the Safety Officer for the exercise.

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Joe Mastandrea - “The Tampa Bay LEPC selected the conduct of a biennial exercise as its FY 2015-16 HMEP Planning project. Not only was Joe Mastandrea instrumental as one of the exercise planning team members, he enlisted key Hillsborough County Emergency Management personnel to participate in the exercise, produced vital graphics which defined the vulnerability zone presented by the exercise scenario and provided the initial research regarding the anticipated reaction of the hazardous material commodities being simultaneously released.

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Marcus Martin accepting on behalf of Joe Mastandrea

Jeff Patterson - “The Tampa Bay LEPC selected the conduct of a biennial exercise as its FY 2015-16 HMEP Planning project. Not only was Chief Jeff Patterson instrumental as one of the exercise planning team members, he was vital to the scheduling and facilitation of the “Operation Hot Wheels” Concepts & Objectives/Initial Planning Meeting, the Mid-Term Planning Meeting, the Master Scenario Events List teleconference, the Final Planning Meeting and the After-Action Report/Improvement Plan Meeting. Mr. Patterson was also critical to ensuring participation of key Hillsborough County Fire Rescue personnel in the exercise, he enlisted the participation of various agencies, assigned prominent exercise roles/positions to unexpected participants and recruited qualified personnel to serve as additional exercise evaluators.

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Jeff Patterson

Amanda Shaw - “The Tampa Bay LEPC selected the conduct of a biennial exercise as its FY 2015-16 HMEP Planning project. Not only was Ms. Amanda Shaw instrumental as one of the exercise planning team members, she was vital to ensuring that the “Operation Hot Wheels” biennial exercise was conducted in accordance with the

Homeland Security and Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP) format as well as solicited the participation of key Hillsborough County Sheriffs Office personnel in the exercise. In order to meet the HSEEP compliance requirement, Ms. Shaw prepared, collected, organized and guided all exercise deliverables and supporting documentation.

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File Photo: Amanda Shaw

Kate McMillan - “The Local Emergency Planning Committees and the Emergency Management agencies in the State of Florida were blessed to have had the services of Ms. Kate McMillan for the last couple of years. Ms. McMillan efficiently and effectively facilitated the timely annual delivery of all Hazmat Contracts (i.e. LEPC Staff Services, HMEP & Hazards Analysis). Among her countless other duties that she was assigned, Ms. McMillan also administered most (if not all) FDEM-lead teleconferences during her tenure, kept all LEPC Staff Coordinators on their toes, coordinated all SERC meeting materials and was always a smiling face at the State Emergency Response Commission meetings.”



Kate McMillan