

OPENING REMARKS
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- **Hurricane Pam scenario**
 - **Designed to demonstrate response and recovery ONLY**, to the federal response agencies the potential catastrophic result for
 - State agencies and local emergency directors provided the local scenario effects and considerations for response and recovery efforts
 - **Demonstrated - beyond the state and local capability**: FEMA should have been prepared to support them

- **Lack of interoperable communications** make it impossible to coordinate response

- **Pre-landfall declaration of emergency** should be standard for State and Local evacuations
 - The Federal Government needs to be proactive not reactive
 - Plaquemines Parish is an example of proactive planning

- **Lack of unity of command** within FEMA hurt response activity

- **FEMA organization**: Should be restored to independent agency with direct access to President

- **FEMA policy is inconsistent, ambiguous, and unclear**
 - Debris removal, channel, harbor and waterway clearing – boats & debris but not silt
 - Temporary housing programs

- **Stafford Act is inadequate** to respond to catastrophic events
 - Federal coordinating officer needs authority to better direct use of Federal resources

- **FEMA slow in providing Public Assistance funding to local governments**

- **Crisis and consequence management**
 - Short Term Response vs. Long Term Recovery
 - Houston housing evacuees – crisis response with consequences, i.e. housing, schools, police

- **Military response coordination**: While necessary should be coordinated through the State and Local direction
- **Planning shortfalls**: Federal Government (FEMA) and state agencies and local governments have known about potential catastrophic results for 20 years w/no substantial planning effort, with the exception of Response 95.
- **Roads and transportation infrastructure** to expedite evacuation