BIOGRAPHIES FOR APPOINTMENTS TO NYS RESPOND

- Thad Allen, Senior Vice President, Booz Allen; Admiral (US Coast Guard) – Retired (Co-Chair)
- K. Bradley Penuel, Director, Center for Catastrophe Preparedness and Response at New York University (Co-Chair)
- Doug Barton, Director of Planning & Economic Development, Tioga County
- Patricia Bashaw, EMS Coordinator, Essex County
- Bradford Berk, Senior Vice President for Health Sciences & CEO of the University of Rochester Medical Center
- LaRay Brown, Senior Vice President, Corporate Planning, Community Health and Intergovernmental Relations, NYC Health & Hospitals Corporation
- Major General Doug Burnett, Florida National Guard (Ret.)
- James Burns, President, Firemen’s Association of the State of New York
- The Reverend Frederick Davie, Executive Vice President, Union Theological Seminary in New York City
- Peter J. Davoren, President and Chief Executive Officer, Turner Construction
- Grant Dillon, President, Global Preparedness and Mitigation
- Eli Feldman, President & CEO, MJHS and Elderplan
- Peter Gudaitis, President, National Disaster Interfaiths Network
- Tony Hannigan, Executive Director, Center for Urban Community Services (CUCS)
- Jerome Hauer, Commissioner, New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (Advisory Member)
- Scott Heller, Director of Emergency Management, Albany Medical Center
- Tino Hernandez, President & Chief Executive Officer, Samaritan Village, Inc.
- Bart Johnson, Executive Director, International Association of Chiefs of Police
- Timothy Manning, Deputy Administrator for Protection and National Preparedness, FEMA (Advisory Member)
- Mike McManus, President, New York State Professional Fire Fighters Association
- Thomas Mungeer, President, New York State Troopers Police Benevolent Association
- Chris Renschler, Associate Professor of Geography, University of Buffalo
- Marilyn Saviola, Vice President, Advocacy and the Women’s Health Access Program, Independence Care System
- Jennifer Schneider, Professor & Russell C. McCarthy Endowed Chair, Civil Engineering Technology, Environmental Management & Safety Department, Rochester Institute of Technology
- Mark J. Solazzo, Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, North Shore-LIJ Health System
- Harry L. Weed, II, Superintendent of Public Works, Village of Rockville Centre
- Sheena Wright, President, United Way of New York City

Co-Chairs

Thad Allen, Senior Vice President, Booz Allen; Admiral (US Coast Guard) – Retired

Booz Allen Senior Vice President Thad Allen supports the firm’s work with the Departments of Justice and Homeland Security. He leads the development of thought leadership and client engagement regarding the future direction of law enforcement and homeland security. He is known for his expertise in bringing together government and non-government entities to address major challenges in a “whole
of government” approach designed to achieve a unity of effort. Mr. Allen completed his distinguished career in the US Coast Guard as its 23rd Commandant.

In 2010, President Barack Obama selected Mr. Allen to serve as the National Incident Commander for the unified response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. Working closely with the US Environmental Protection Agency, DHS, the Departments of Defense, Interior, Commerce, and Health and Human Services, state and local entities, and BP, he sought to bring a unity of effort to response operations.

Prior to his assignment as Commandant, Mr. Allen served as Coast Guard Chief of Staff. During his tenure in that position, in 2005, he was designated Principal Federal Official for the US government’s response and recovery operations in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita throughout the Gulf Coast region.

Other Coast Guard assignments included Commander, Atlantic Area where in 2001 he led the Coast Guard’s Atlantic Area forces following the September 11 attacks. He previously served as Commander, Seventh Coast Guard District, where he oversaw all operations in the southeastern United States and in the Caribbean.

Prior to joining Booz Allen, Mr. Allen served with the Rand Corporation.

He is a Fellow in the National Academy of Public Administration and a Member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Mr. Allen also currently serves as a director on the Coast Guard Foundation and Partnership for Public Service.

He is a 1971 graduate of the US Coast Guard Academy. He holds a Masters in Public Administration from George Washington University—from which he received the Alumni Achievement Award in 2006. He also holds an M.S. degree in Management from the Sloan School of Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Mr. Allen has been awarded honorary doctorate degrees from George Mason University, the National Defense University, and the National Graduate School.

K. Bradley Penuel, Director, Center for Catastrophe Preparedness and Response at New York University

Brad Penuel is the Director of the Center for Catastrophe Preparedness and Response (CCPR) at New York University (NYU) where he also serves as the Assistant Vice President for Health Initiatives. Previously, while with Chemonics International in Washington, DC, he consulted on initiatives for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the World Bank. He has also served as a civil/environmental engineer for Gresham, Smith and Partners, in Nashville, TN. Mr. Penuel received a BS in Civil Engineering from Auburn University and a Masters degree in Urban Planning from New York University’s Wagner School of Public Service. He is also the co-editor of the Encyclopedia of Disaster Relief (2010, with Dr. Matthew Statler).
**Commission Members**

**Doug Barton, Director of Planning & Economic Development, Tioga County**

A graduate of Mansfield University, PA, Doug has spent the last 18 years in Tioga County government. He began as Director of Real Property and in 2003 assumed the duties of Director of Economic Development & Planning. Prior to government, he was in the Material Handling Industry with Raymond Corporation and Hyster and also spent 10 years as a small businessman. Doug currently is President of the Board of Municipal Electric & Gas Alliance and serves on the Board for Statewide Zone Capital Corporation.

**Patricia Bashaw, EMS Coordinator, Essex County**

Patricia Bashaw began her career in Emergency Medical Services 30 years ago, and since 1996 has sat on the Mt. Lakes Regional EMS Council as well as the Mt. Lakes Regional Medical Advisory Council. In 1996, she was appointed Deputy EMS Coordinator for Essex County and in 2004 was appointed by the Board of Supervisors as the EMS Coordinator. Active in her local agency as a Critical Care Advanced EMT, she has held the position of President since 1996 and has responded on average to 60% of their call volume each year. As the EMS Coordinator for Essex County, she has coordinated EMS response for major events such as Ironman for 14 years and the Goodwill Games as well as natural disasters such as the Ice Storm, Irene and Sandy. As a NYS Certified Instructor Coordinator for 23 years, Ms. Bashaw enjoys teaching EMS courses for a 5 county region.

In her paid professional life, she has worked at the Essex County Office for the Aging for 25 years and in 2000 was appointed as the Director of the agency. Her office advocates and serves just over 9,000 rural older New Yorkers. As the Director and as an Officer of the NYS Area Agency on Aging, she is able to speak with state and local Officials in regards to barriers and challenges NY elderly face.

Ms. Bashaw was born in Westport, NY, and attended Westport Central School. She graduated from North Country Community College in 1990. Patty is married to Lawrence V. Bashaw, Jr., and they reside in Lewis, NY.

**Bradford Berk, Senior Vice President for Health Sciences & CEO of the University of Rochester Medical Center**

Dr. Bradford C. Berk is the Senior Vice President for Health Sciences at the University of Rochester and CEO of the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC). Since receiving his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Rochester, Dr. Berk has served on the faculties of Harvard Medical School, Emory University, and the University of Washington. Dr. Berk was recruited to URMC in 1998 as Chief of the Cardiology Division. He founded URMC’s Aab Cardiovascular Research Institute (CVRI). Dr. Berk then served as Chairman of Medicine until 2006 when he became CEO.

One of the world's preeminent cardiovascular scientists, Dr. Berk is a fellow of the American Heart Association and the American College of Cardiology, a member of the Association of American Physicians, and past-president of the North American Vascular Biology Organization. He is on the editorial boards of Circulation, Circulation Research, ATVB and the Journal of Clinical Investigation. He serves on the Empire State Stem Cell Board Funding Committee. Dr. Berk has published more than 250 articles, chapters, and books.
In March of 2010, Dr. Berk returned to his CEO duties after a several-month leave in which he recovered from a serious spinal cord injury. Since Dr. Berk’s return, he has focused on cultural transformation at URMC promoting development of a patient- and family-centered environment, developing capabilities to address the challenges of health care reform and facilitating the translation of fundamental research discoveries into clinical applications.

LaRay Brown, Senior Vice President, Corporate Planning, Community Health and Intergovernmental Relations, NYC Health & Hospitals Corporation

LaRay Brown is the Senior Vice President for Corporate Planning, Community Health and Intergovernmental Relations at the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC), the largest municipal public hospital system in the country. She has been acknowledged by Modern Healthcare as one of the Top 25 Women in Healthcare. LaRay Brown directs strategic-planning efforts for the corporation, formulation and execution of legislative initiatives and advocacy strategies. Among the many corporate-wide initiatives that she has led, Ms. Brown is spearheading the development of affordable and accessible housing on behalf of HHC’s patients.

She is the recipient of numerous awards including the Commission on the Public’s Health System’s Marshall C. England Memorial Public Health Award in 2010 and the Community Health Care Association of New York State’s Rosemarie Forstner Award in 2011.

She was a member of Governor Cuomo’s health care transition team and his Medicaid Redesign Team Work Groups on Housing and Health Disparities. Ms. Brown also serves on the board of the New York State Health Foundation.

Ms. Brown previously held leadership positions with the State of New Jersey including its Division of Mental Health and Hospitals and its Division of Youth and Family Services.

Ms. Brown graduated summa cum laude from the University of Pennsylvania and received her graduate training at the University of Pennsylvania Fels Center for Government Policy.

Major General Doug Burnett, Florida National Guard (Ret.)

Major General Burnett served over 47 years in the Florida National Guard, from Airman to Major General. He served as Assistant Adjutant General/Air from June 1996 until his appointment by Governor Jeb Bush on November 3, 2001 as Adjutant General and Commander of all units in both the Army National Guard and Air National Guard of Florida. He also served on the boards of the U. S. Pentagon Domestic Operations Advisory Board (chairman); the National Guard Officers Association of Florida (president); the Modernization Committee of the National Guard Association of the U.S.; and was a member of both the Reserve Forces Policy Board (board reporting to the Secretary of Defense) and the Board of Directors of the National Guard Association of the U.S. Maj. Gen. Burnett spent a substantial amount of his military career in the training and education of personnel, and was responsible for the development of innovative educational programs.
James Burns, President, Firemen’s Association of the State of New York

James A. Burns Started his Firematic career as a volunteer firefighter in Verplanck, NY (Westchester County), serving the Fire Department as Vice President, President and Secretary. He served as Lieutenant, Captain, Asst. Chief and ultimately as Chief of the Fire Department. After retiring as Chief, Jim was elected Commissioner of the Verplanck fire district, where he served as Chairman of the board.

Jim was President of the Westchester County Volunteer Firemen’s Association, President of the Westchester County Fire Chiefs Association, President of the Hudson Valley Firemen’s Association, and President of the Board of Trustees of the Firemen’s Home in Hudson, NY.

In 1995, Jim was appointed State Fire Administrator and served the Office of Fire Prevention and Control for 12 years, retiring in 2007. While serving as State Fire Administrator, Jim was elected President of the National Association of State Fire Marshals. He also serves as a Director of the National Professional Qualification System (Pro Board), the accreditation organization for fire service certification agencies nationwide.

Jim previously retired as postmaster of Verplanck, NY, having served the federal government for 30 years. He is a Navy veteran.

The Reverend Frederick Davie, Executive Vice President, Union Theological Seminary in New York City

The Reverend Frederick Davie joined Union on August 15, 2011 as Executive Vice President. In this capacity, Mr. Davie serves as an adviser and assistant to the President for the structure and administration of the executive office, strategic planning, institutional advancement, and vision implementation. He also serves as the administrative center for all the work of the President, coordinating the efforts of executive office staff and senior staff in relation to the President.

He comes to Union most recently from the Arcus Foundation where he served as Interim Executive Director and Senior Director of the Social Justice and LGBT Programs.

Mr. Davie served on President Barack Obama’s transition team and accepted an appointment by the President to the White House Council on Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships.

Mr. Davie has extensive experience in senior-level roles in philanthropic and social and economic justice organizations, including Public/Private Ventures, where he delivered a keynote address at the White House Conference on faith-based organizations and prisoner re-entry and assisted with managing the Bush/Clinton Katrina Fund for Houses of Worship; and the Ford Foundation, where he developed a nationally recognized funding strategy to support faith-based organizations and juvenile justice collaborations. He has been appointed to a number of leadership roles in public administration for the City of New York, culminating in his appointment as Deputy Borough President of Manhattan (1994-1997).

Mr. Davie’s interfaith and denominational work includes executive-level positions with New York City Mission Society, Brooklyn Ecumenical Cooperatives and the Presbytery of New York City.

A Presbyterian minister, Mr. Davie has served the national church, presbytery and local congregations in various volunteer capacities.
Mr. Davie holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Greensboro College and a Master of Divinity degree from Yale Divinity School, where he attended as a Benjamin E. Mays Fellow of the Fund for Theological Education.

Peter J. Davoren, President and Chief Executive Officer, Turner Construction

Peter J. Davoren is President and Chief Executive Officer of Turner Construction Company. Under Peter’s leadership, Turner has been recognized as the leader in the delivery of green building projects and for the utilization of Building Information Modeling tools. The company has also been recognized as having the leading safety program for large contractors by the Associated General Contractors of America, the best company for entry level employees to work, and one of the top 50 organizations dedicated to developing multicultural business opportunities.

Peter joined Turner in 1978 after graduating from Pratt Institute. Peter’s first assignment was as a Field Engineer on the Brigham and Women’s Hospital project in Boston. He moved to New York in 1980 and has held a wide variety of assignments in the delivery and management of Turner’s work. Peter’s leadership roles have included Manager of Turner’s Interiors division in New York, Vice President and General Manger of Turner’s New York office and Senior Vice President responsible for Turner’s activities in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Peter was appointed President of Turner Construction Company in 2003 and Chief Executive Officer of The Turner Corporation in 2007.

Peter is active in industry groups and organizations. He serves as the Chairman of the Contractors’ Association of Greater New York (CAGNY) and Vice Chairman of the ACE Mentor Program. He is also a member of the Columbia Engineering Board of Visitors and Chairs the Capital Facilities Working Group for The Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries.

Grant Dillon, President, Global Preparedness and Mitigation

Grant Dillon has over 35 years of senior level civil/military experience in emergency management, emergency medical services, mass casualty care and national security policy, planning and operations. This experience was gained in Federal government service at the U.S. Government Accountability Office, Departments of Veteran’s Affairs, Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, National Security Council and Speaker’s Office, U.S. House of Representatives. Professor Dillon shared the experience gained at the Military’s Senior Service Schools for over 20 years and served as Chief of Staff, National Interagency Civil/military Institute.

Eli Feldman, President & CEO, MJHS and Elderplan

A unique success story, Eli Feldman began his career at MJHS (known then as Metropolitan Jewish Health System) as an administrative assistant 45 years ago. He rose through the ranks to become President and Chief Executive Officer, a position he has held for nearly 35 years. Under his leadership, MJHS has expanded to 15 corporations and four businesses that provide integrated health care to families throughout Greater New York and, most recently, in upstate New York as well. These programs and services include health plans for Medicare, Medicaid and Dual Eligible beneficiaries, HomeFirst Managed Long Term Care, home health care, hospice and palliative care for adults and children, centers for rehabilitation and nursing care, a center for the development of assistive technology and an applied research center.
Throughout his career, Feldman has provided insight and leadership to a number of state and national professional organizations that serve the chronically impaired, frail and elderly. Most recently, he served as a member of Governor Andrew Cuomo’s Medicaid Redesign Team, where he also co-chaired a workgroup on the Implementation of Medicaid Managed Long Term Care and Federal Waiver Redesign. He is Immediate Past Chair of the Continuing Care Leadership Coalition (CCLC); board member of Greater New York Hospital Association (GNYHA); board member of The Health Care Association of New York State (HANYS); chair of Managed Long Term Care-PACE Coalition; board member of International Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (IAHSA); board member of Alliance for Advancing Nonprofit Health Care; and past chair of Association for Jewish Aging Services of North America (AJAS).

Feldman has been honored by dozens of groups for his enormous contributions to the health care sector. Recent honors include: Award of Honor (Leading Age, national association) Lawrence E. Larson Award (Leading Age, New York); the Ruth F. Wilson Award (Home Care Association of New York State); Community Leadership Award (Agudah Women of America); and Distinguished Alumnus Award (C.W. Post College of Long Island University).

Mr. Feldman graduated cum laude with a B.S. in business administration from C. W. Post College of Long Island University. He holds an M.B.A. in hospital administration from Wagner College. He is also a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Peter Gudaitis, President, National Disaster Interfaiths Network

Since 2007 Peter B. Gudaitis has served as the president of the National Disaster Interfaiths Network (NDIN), a network of local, state and regional disaster interfaith organization executives that provides resources, consultants, training and speakers to help build disaster resilient communities. He also serves as a freelance consultant, recovery contractor, researcher and trainer. He speaks nationally and internationally on interfaith and inter-religious emergency management partnerships as well as disaster readiness, response, and recovery best practices.

From 2003 to 2009 Mr. Gudaitis was the executive director and chief executive officer of New York Disaster Interfaith Services (NYDIS), a federation of faith-based human service providers, charitable organizations and faith communities that work in partnership to provide disaster readiness, response, and recovery services for New York City.

Mr. Gudaitis has over 25 years of experience in chaplaincy, emergency management, faith-based philanthropy, program management, and social services administration. From 1999 to 2003, he served as associate director of Episcopal Charities of the Diocese of New York, where he managed community-based outreach, youth grant programs, and also directed diocesan 9/11 relief and recovery programs. He has eight years of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) experience, having served as an EMT, EMT-I, and EMS chaplain for rural and urban EMS companies in Tennessee and Connecticut. In addition to his advanced life support certifications, he received training in Mass Casualty Incident Command and Pediatric Trauma Care. From 1992 to 1996, he served as an EMS supervisor in Fairfield County, Connecticut. He is certified as a Disaster Chaplain as well as in Basic and Advanced CISM debriefing.

Mr. Gudaitis holds a Master of Divinity degree from the General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church and a B.A. from Kenyon College. He completed CPE training through the Healthcare Chaplaincy at Beth Israel Medical Center as well as Disaster Emotional and Spiritual Care training with NDIN and the
Salvation Army. He has served on many local and national boards and committees in a variety of capacities, including: the board of directors of NYC VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster); the board of directors of the Human Services Council of New York City; the Citizens Corps Council of New York City; the Working Group on Citizen Engagement in Health Emergency Planning at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center’s Center for Biosecurity; and the Working Group on Wounded Warrior Wellness for the FBI’s Behavioral Science Unit; the Domestic Disaster Preparedness and Response Advisory Council of Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) and has represented ERD on the Emotional and Spiritual Care Committee of National VOAD. And, the Advisory Board of the Haiti Earthquake Hope & Healing Fund.

Currently, Mr. Gudaitis is a member of the Faith-based Caucus of the International Association of Emergency Managers; Advisory Board of the Mt. Sinai Hospital Center for Occupational and Environmental Medicine; Guest Lecturer at Metropolitan College of New York, Emergency and Disaster Management Program; Research Associate at the Center for Religion and Civic Culture at the University of Southern California, And, serves on the Board of Directors of the Global Community Foundation.

Under the leadership of Mr. Gudaitis, NYDIS received the 2007 Ready New Yorker Award for outstanding commitment to Emergency Planning and Disaster Education from the New York City Office of Emergency Management. In 2007, Mr. Gudaitis received the Individual Award for Excellence in Preparedness and Planning from National VOAD.

**Tony Hannigan, Executive Director, Center for Urban Community Services (CUCS)**

Mr. Hannigan has worked with the Center as a member of the Leadership Team, providing guidance on policy and research topics from the unique perspective of a service provider agency. Under Hannigan’s guidance, CUCS has become a key component in New York City’s efforts to end homelessness and provide services to vulnerable individuals with psychiatric diagnoses. CUCS serves 25,000 NYC homeless, formerly homeless and low-income individuals and families, and provided additional assistance to over 1,000 people who are formerly homeless or living on very low incomes to meet the challenges of living without electricity after Hurricane Sandy.

**Jerome Hauer, Commissioner, New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services**

Jerome M. Hauer is one of the nation’s true innovators in public safety, emergency management, medical and public health planning and response to emergencies disasters and terrorism. In November 2011 he was appointed by New York State Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to serve as Commissioner of the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services. As Commissioner, Hauer oversees The State Office of Emergency Management, The Office of Fire Prevention and Control, The Office of Interoperable and Emergency Communications, The Office of Cyber Security and serves as the Director of the Office of Counterterrorism.

Commissioner Hauer has a long record of innovative firsts in the areas of homeland security, emergency management and medical/public health planning.

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Tommy G. Thompson named Hauer as the first Acting Assistant Secretary for the Office of Public Health Emergency Preparedness in 2002. During his tenure, Hauer was responsible for coordinating the country’s medical and public health preparedness and response to emergencies, including acts of biological, chemical, and nuclear terrorism.
Prior to his appointment as Acting Assistant Secretary, Hauer served as Director of the Office of Public Health Preparedness. Hauer also served as senior advisor to the Secretary for National Security and Emergency Management during the events of September 11, 2001, and the nation’s anthrax crisis.

In 1996, Hauer was named first Director of the Office of Emergency Management for the City of New York by Mayor Rudolf Giuliani. In this role, Dr. Hauer was charged with coordinating the city’s planning for and response to natural and man-made events, including acts of terrorism. New York became the first city to develop a bioterrorism response plan and to do large-scale bioterrorism exercises. Hauer and his staff in New York City also developed the concept of Points of Distribution or PODs, which is now used worldwide and developed the first public health surveillance system in the nation.

Hauer was appointed by Indiana Governor Evan Bayh in 1989 to serve as the Executive Director of the State of Indiana’s Emergency Management Agency and Director of the state’s Emergency Medical Services and its Department of Fire and Building Services. During his tenure, Hauer convinced the Indiana State legislature to merge the State Emergency Management Agency with Emergency Medical Services Commission, the first State in the nation to bring these two agencies together to improve response and coordination in larger incidents in the emergency care of victims.

In 1987, Hauer was named Deputy Director for Emergency Management for the City of New York’s Emergency Medical Services. Four years earlier, Dr. Hauer joined the Biomedical Division of IBM as a clinical research coordinator, later taking responsibility for the company’s Hazardous Material Response, Crisis Management, Fire Safety and Emergency Medical Response Programs. A series of hazardous materials training videos produced by Mr. Hauer earned him the International Film and TV Critics of New York Bronze Award in 1986.

Additionally, Dr. Hauer served as the Director of the Response to Emergencies and Disasters Institute (READI) at The George Washington University; where he was appointed as the institute’s first director to work with the Department of Homeland Security to coordinate and deliver first responder, medical and public health training for the National Capital Region (NCR) and was an assistant professor in the School of Public Health & Health Services and the School of Medicine. He also was an advisor to the Columbia University’s School of Public Health, the Los Angeles Police Department and the Stanford School of Medicine.

Commissioner Hauer has served on the National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine’s Committee to Evaluate R&D Needs for Improved Civilian Medical Response to Chemical or Biological Terrorism Incidents, as Consulting Fellow, Potomac Institute for Policy Studies-Center for Emerging Threat and Opportunities, the Board of Visitors National Interagency Civil-Military Institute, and was an advisor to the U.S. Capitol Police and the U.S. Marine Corps’ Chemical-Biological Incident Response Force (C-BIRF). He assisted the governments of New South Wales and Victoria in preparing for the 2000 Olympics. He was also selected as one of six people to brief President Clinton on biological terrorism and assisted in the World Health Organization’s rewrite of its 1970 monograph on chemical and biological weapons.

Hauer developed the first technique for re-infusing blood lost by patients following cardiac surgery while a graduate student at Johns Hopkins. He served on the faculty of the Northeastern University Paramedic Program and was a teaching assistant in the physiology labs for first-and fourth-year students at Harvard Medical School. Hauer has also served as a volunteer firefighter in Ridgefield, Connecticut, and was a captain in the U.S. Army Reserve.
He earned his doctorate at Cranfield University, Defense Academy of the United Kingdom, has a Master’s degree from the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and a Bachelor’s Degree from New York University. He has coauthored forty-six (46) publications, a book and two (2) monographs.

Scott Heller, Director of Emergency Management, Albany Medical Center

Scott Heller has over 25 years of healthcare experience in hospitals, private medical practice, outpatient medical imaging center, and pre-hospital air medical service provider. His positions have included direct patient care, management, and administration.

He is currently the Director of Emergency Management at Albany Medical Center and responsible for the coordination of emergency preparedness planning, training, and response activities at Albany Medical Center, including the Hospital, College, and Faculty Practice sites. He is also responsible for administrative oversight of the Regional Resource Center (RRC), based at AMC. The RRC coordinates regional healthcare emergency planning with hospitals, local health departments, long term care facilities, emergency management offices, and other planning partners in the 13-county region around Albany.

Prior positions include Director of Operations for a large, private cardiology practice; Operations Administrator for a community-based diagnostic imaging center; Program Director for a regional air medical service; Director of Cardio-Pulmonary Services at a community hospital; as well as a Respiratory Care Practitioner and Emergency Medical Technician.

Mr. Heller has a Master of Business Administration from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, a Bachelor of Science in Health Care Administration from SUNY Empire State College, and an Associate in Applied Science in Respiratory Therapy from Hudson Valley Community College.

Tino Hernandez, President & Chief Executive Officer, Samaritan Village, Inc.

Tino Hernandez was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of Samaritan Village, Inc., on December 18, 2008. Mr. Hernandez is responsible for the administration of one of the largest non-profit providers of community-based substance abuse treatment services in New York State. He leads Samaritan’s efforts to deliver quality services to underserved populations including addicted men and women, clients with co-occurring mental health disorders, veterans suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorders and offenders. Samaritan Village oversees fourteen facilities in New York City and in Ulster County including drug-free residential, veterans-specific, methadone-to-abstinence and out-patient modalities. Samaritan Village also administers shelters for homeless individuals, transitional housing services and a senior program. Mr. Hernandez manages an annual operating budget of approximately $50 million and a staff of 450 employees.

Prior to joining Samaritan Village, Mr. Hernandez was the second longest serving Chairman of the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA). He served as Chairman from March 2001 until December 2008. Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg re-appointed him to the position on January 1, 2002. As the largest public housing authority in North America, NYCHA provides affordable housing to over 408,000 low and moderate income New Yorkers who reside in 343 housing developments encompassing over 2,600 residential buildings and 178,000 apartments. Mr. Hernandez also oversaw the nation’s largest Section 8 Leased Housing Program, providing apartment vouchers for nearly 89,000 families in the private rental market with 29,000 participating landlords.
Prior to NYCHA, Mr. Hernandez held several executive positions within city government. He served as Commissioner of the New York City Department of Juvenile Justice where he oversaw the renovation of the Bridges Juvenile Center, a model comprehensive intake and assessment facility for detained juveniles. Mr. Hernandez also served as Chief of Staff to the Deputy Mayor for Education and Human Services, overseeing several City agencies including the Human Resources Administration, the Department of Homeless Services, the Department for the Aging, the Department of Youth and Community Development, NYCHA and the Mayor’s Offices for AIDS Policy Coordination and People with Disabilities.

Mr. Hernandez obtained a Bachelor of Science degree from Adelphi University in 1986. A licensed social worker (CSW), he graduated in 1988 from the State University of New York at Albany, Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy with a Masters in Social Work with a concentration in management.

Mr. Hernandez is married and resides in Manhattan. He is the father of two children.

Bart Johnson, Executive Director, International Association of Chiefs of Police

Mr. Bart R. Johnson currently serves as the Executive Director for the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), an organization with over 21,000 members from over 100 countries around the world. As the Executive Director, Mr. Johnson is responsible for ensuring that the IACP builds upon over a century of success addressing issues at the forefront of the law enforcement profession, to include, advocacy, training, technical assistance and exchange of information. Leading a staff of over 100 professionals, Mr. Johnson provides strategic advice and counsel to the IACP leadership and membership on the critical issues they confront each day. In addition, Mr. Johnson is charged with the identification and development of relationships with strategic partners to advance the goals and missions of the IACP.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Johnson served as the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). As the second-ranking official in the office, he was responsible for integrating the Department’s intelligence efforts while providing the Secretary, her senior leadership, the DHS components, and state, local, tribal and private sector partners with the homeland security intelligence and information they need to keep the country safe. Mr. Johnson also oversaw the Department’s programs to evaluate and mature state and local fusion center capabilities and establish a nationwide, integrated information sharing fabric.

Prior to this assignment Mr. Johnson served as Director of Homeland Security and Law Enforcement (HSLE) in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI). In this capacity, Mr. Johnson was the principal advisor to the Director and his executive staff for HSLE issues, and primary subject matter expert on missions, capabilities, and organizations of the Intelligence Community’s homeland security and law enforcement Federal, state, local, and tribal (FSLT) partners. Mr. Johnson engaged with key intelligence and homeland security partners to ensure that the information and intelligence requirements of HSLE professionals were met, and further the capabilities of each of these build support for that the national network of state and local fusion centers. Mr. Johnson also developed the Partners Group - a select community of FSLT leaders from across the country to advise the Director of National Intelligence on FSLT capabilities, issues, best practices and contributions to national and homeland
security.

Before joining the federal government, Mr. Johnson served as a Colonel with the New York State Police. He has more than 31 years of law enforcement experience, 24 of them with the New York State Police. He began his career as a police officer in Peekskill, New York, in 1977, and he then rose through the ranks of the state police. During that time, he participated in a number of complex and high-level criminal investigations. Following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, Mr. Johnson was tasked to develop a terrorism preparedness, response and prevention capability within the state police. His efforts led to the establishment of the New York State Police Office of Counter-Terrorism in February 2003, which Mr. Johnson commanded as Lieutenant Colonel and which evolved into the current New York State Intelligence Center. He retired from the state police in 2008 as the Field Commander where he oversaw the daily activities of nearly 5,000 sworn members of the agency.

Mr. Johnson is a former Co-Chair of the Global Advisory Committee and former Chair of the Global Intelligence Working Group and Criminal Intelligence Coordinating Council. These positions exposed him to a number of national intelligence efforts as well as the development and establishment of the National Fusion Center Network.

Mr. Johnson has received numerous awards, including the Superintendent’s Commendation and the Federal 100 Award. He is also the recipient of the Department of Homeland Security Distinguished Public Service Award—the highest award that can be given to an individual from outside the Department—awarded to those who have brought the highest honor upon the Department through exceptionally distinguished service in support of efforts to secure the homeland.

Mr. Johnson holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management and Economics from Empire State College. Mr. Johnson has been married to his wife Maryann for more than 33 years and has three grown children, Erik, Kristen and Amy.

**Timothy Manning, Deputy Administrator for Protection and National Preparedness, FEMA**

Mr. Timothy W. Manning serves as Deputy Administrator for Protection and National Preparedness at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). In this capacity, Mr. Manning oversees the Agency’s preparedness initiatives including national training, education, exercises, assessment, and community preparedness programs. As a former firefighter, emergency medical technician (EMT), rescue mountaineer, hazardous materials specialist, and hydrologist, he brings almost two decades of diverse, frontline emergency management experience to the Agency. Prior to joining FEMA, Mr. Manning served as the Secretary of the New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and Homeland Security Advisor to the Governor. Mr. Manning is a graduate of the Executive Leaders Program (ELP) at the Center for Homeland Defense and Security at the Naval Postgraduate School, and holds a B.S. in Geology from Eastern Illinois University.

**Mike McManus, President, New York State Professional Fire Fighters Association**

Mike McManus is responsible for all functions related to the operation of NYSPFFA. He began his firefighting career in 1974 as a member of the Binghamton Fire Department, NYSPFFA Local 729. His union leadership dates back to 1979, when he joined the Local 729 negotiating team. He served as secretary of the local from 1979 to 1986 and was a member of the Health & Safety Committee from 1985 to 1989. Mike has completed coursework in the Cornell University School of Industrial Relations
Arbitration Institute; the Workers’ Compensation Navigator Program, Section 207-a; and is experienced in Public Employee Law.

**Thomas Mungeer, President, New York State Troopers Police Benevolent Association**

Thomas H. Mungeer joined the New York State Police in 1993. After graduating from the State Police Academy, Mungeer was assigned to Troop F in the lower Hudson Valley first to SP Wurtsboro and then SP Liberty. In 1998, Mungeer was one of a select number of Troopers hand-picked for a special, anti-organized crime detail at the Jacob Javits Center in New York City at the request of then-Gov. George Pataki. Mungeer worked on that detail for four years, including during the 9/11 attack and clean-up before returning to SP Liberty, where he was assigned to the Highway Task Force. In 2003, Mungeer was elected as the PBA delegate for Troop F and subsequently was elected, in a series of statewide elections, to First Vice President in 2006 and President in 2009, a position he currently holds. In addition, he is currently the First Vice Chairman of the National Troopers Coalition and serves as an Area Vice President with the National Association of Police Organizations and is active with a number of statewide police and public employee organizations. Mungeer has a bachelor’s degree in finance from Ithaca College. He and his wife, Cindi, are the parents of four children and live in Sullivan County.

**Chris Renschler, Associate Professor of Geography, University of Buffalo**

Chris S. Renschler is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography and Director of the Landscape-based Environmental System Analysis & Modeling Laboratory (LESAM) at the University at Buffalo (UB) where he is also a Faculty Member of MCEER-Earthquake Engineering to Extreme Events, an Advisory Board Member of the Center for GeoHazard Studies, and a Research Scientists at the National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis (NCGIA).

He is a Co-Principal Investigator of the National Science Foundation (NSF)-funded Partnership for Innovation project Information Products Laboratory for Emergency Response (IPLER) that created a unique technology, policy and business development incubator to facilitate interaction and innovation among researchers, private sector service and product providers, and public sector emergency response decision makers. In this capacity he has been recognized for his leadership in contributing to the rapid damage assessment of the Haiti Earthquake (2010) and floods caused by the Hurricanes Irene (2011) and Sandy (2012). He is a member of the Erie County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and collaborates actively in research, teaching and outreach activities with various federal, state and local tribal stakeholders.

Dr. Renschler received his Ph.D. from the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics at the University of Bonn, Germany, and was invited to conduct research and discuss community resilience and integrated extreme events management approaches in the US, Australia, The Netherlands, Japan and other natural hazard prone regions. He is the lead author of a 2010 National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) report on the PEOPLES Resilience Framework that defines and measures the resilience of communities at multiple spatial and temporal scales to enable decision-makers to better assess and plan for impacts and recovery of extreme events.
Marilyn Saviola, Vice President, Advocacy and the Women’s Health Access Program, Independence Care System

Marilyn E. Saviola is a nationally recognized disability rights advocate with a 40-year history of fighting to improve the lives of people with disabilities in New York City, particularly by advocating for the rights of people with physical disabilities to live at home, in the community, as independently as possible.

Ms. Saviola began her career as a Rehabilitation Counselor at Goldwater Memorial Hospital. For 11 years, she helped people with severe physical disabilities to meet the challenges of leaving the hospital to move out into the community. A post-polio survivor who grew up in Goldwater Hospital herself, Ms. Saviola brought to that position not only her professional credentials—a Master’s Degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from New York University—but also her own personal experience.

From 1983 to 1998, Ms. Saviola took up the reins as Executive Director of the Center for Independence of the Disabled in NY. Under her leadership, CIDNY became a premier independent living center, recognized for its expertise in advocacy and services for people with disabilities. In 1998, Ms. Saviola brought her passion and deep knowledge of home- and community-based services to Independence Care System (ICS), a Medicaid managed long-term care program for people with physical disabilities. As Director of Advocacy, Ms. Saviola intervenes, often in crisis situations, on behalf of ICS members with the many systems that impact their lives.

Most recently, Ms. Saviola has overseen the creation of the Women’s Health Program at ICS. Working in partnership with select health care institutions to address the numerous barriers that prevent access to care, the Program works to ensure that women with physical disabilities get the preventive, gender-specific health services they need. The Breast Cancer Screening Project for Women with Physical Disabilities was ICS’s first women’s health initiative. It has been funded since its inception by the Greater NYC Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure, which chose the Project in 2010 as “Grantee of the Year.”

As a community advocate, Marilyn has brought her unique and powerful voice to the work of many advisory committees, organizations and professional associations. She has served as Past Chair of the Manhattan Borough Disability Advisory Group, Board Member or the Association of Independent Living Centers in New York, Member of the New York City Medicaid Managed Care Task Force and Board Member of Disabled in Action.

Jennifer Schneider, Professor & Russell C. McCarthy Endowed Chair, Civil Engineering Technology, Environmental Management & Safety Department, Rochester Institute of Technology

Dr. Jennifer Schneider is the Russell C. McCarthy endowed chair in the College of Applied Science and Technology (CAST) at the Rochester Institute of Technology. She is also a full professor within the Civil Engineering Technology, Environmental Management & Safety department within CAST. She is associated with the Integrated Products Laboratory for Emergency Response (IPLER), an NSF funded research effort, and the Laboratory for Environmental Computing and Decision-making (LCEDM). A Certified Industrial Hygienist (CP-7273), Dr. Schneider’s interests span environmental health and safety, and current work focuses on risk analysis applications to critical infrastructure, fusion of regional information to support emergency decision-making, modeling of hazardous material transport risks through metropolitan areas, and regional emergency preparedness and management. She teaches courses in hazardous materials, risk and decision-making, occupational safety and health and EHS management system design to undergraduates and graduates at RIT, and has been nominated for the
Eisenhart Award for excellence in teaching multiple times, notably for her active teaching style, letting students learn by doing, whether experiencing a controlled explosion or being a part of an actual exercise. She is also the technical PI of the Region 2 OSHA Education Center, which serves NY, NJ, and the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

Dr. Schneider grew up in a family of rural volunteer first responders, and some of her best childhood memories include leaving the house at three am in a snowstorm to help others, though due to her stature, training turn out gear never fit. She received her BA in Chemistry and Biology from Roberts Wesleyan College, her MS in Industrial Hygiene from the University of Rochester’s School of Medicine and Dentistry, and her Sc.D. from UMASS Lowell College of Engineering.

Dr. Schneider has managed (PI) or contributed to fourteen research projects including work funded by DHS, US Department of Education, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, New York State Hazard Abatement Board, US Department of Labor, among others. Efforts in these research projects center on hazmat risk analysis and decision-making, design of active decision systems, process safety management, nuclear safety and curriculum design. She is also a senior peer reviewer for NIH for her EHS and public health expertise, and spent four years on the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health peer review panel. She is currently on the National Academy of Sciences Offshore Windfarm Safety and Health committee.

Prior to becoming an educator, Dr. Schneider began her career in industry in remediation project management at Eastman Kodak Park, and worked her way through engineering and environmental health and safety ranks at Eastman Kodak, Mobil, and finally, Goulds/ ITT, where she was the divisional director of environmental health and safety for three thousand unionized steel workers, a foundry and machine and assembly shops. She co-led a team that won an ITT Engineering Excellence Award and a NYS Pollution Prevention award for complete redesign and set up of paint and coating and emission systems at a major facility. At Mobil, Dr. Schneider lead three facilities to OSHA VPP (Best in Class) safety STAR recognition over a twenty month period (1994-1995), and is still the only person to achieve that recognition rate. As a volunteer for the local hazmat team, she also earned a commendation for performance on a gas leak response and evacuation from the Monroe County Executive in 1998.

Mark J. Solazzo, Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, North Shore-LIJ Health System

As executive vice president and chief operating officer, Mr. Solazzo provides leadership and oversight to all operations for the North Shore-LIJ Health System, including its 15 hospitals, long-term care facilities, internationally recognized medical research institute and healthcare-related businesses. He oversees a workforce of 43,000 employees, the largest on Long Island and the ninth largest in New York City. In his role, Mr. Solazzo is responsible for integrating the strategic plan of the organization through its operations and maintaining an organizational culture that recognizes the importance of strategic change leadership, excellence in execution, accountability and the ongoing commitment to long-term growth and innovation. In addition, he is responsible for ensuring the delivery of coordinated services to meet the needs of patients and the community.

Prior to his appointment to chief operating officer in 2005, Mr. Solazzo served as chief of staff and chief administrative officer to the health system’s President and Chief Executive Officer Michael J. Dowling. In that position, he worked with senior leadership to successfully implement the health system’s strategic objectives, providing management oversight for the development of first-class, cost-effective and integrated programs to ensure the operational and strategic success of the organization. He was also
accountable for government relations, and managed the health system’s emergency preparedness efforts and special projects for the Center for Emergency Medical Services and other core divisions.

Before joining North Shore-LIJ in 1995, Mr. Solazzo held a number of senior-level positions within the New York State Department of Social Services, where he oversaw health and social services issues for 15 years. During his tenure there, he was responsible for the state’s Child Assistance Program which earned him Harvard University’s prestigious Innovations in Government Award. Mr. Solazzo culminated his work at the department as director of the Bureau of Management and Administrative Support.

Mr. Solazzo is a member of the Healthcare Institute, Inc., The Health Management Academy and the Healthcare Association of New York State.

Mr. Solazzo earned an undergraduate degree from Fordham University, studied at Albany Medical College, and received an MBA with a specialization in health system management from Union College, Schenectady, NY.

**Harry L. Weed, II, Superintendent of Public Works, Village of Rockville Centre**

Mr. Weed has been the Superintendent of Public Works with the Village of Rockville Centre since June 2002. In this capacity he supervises the Public Works Department for the Village which includes highway, sewer, sanitation Water, parks and central garage, as well as parking meter and console repairs and maintenance, street sweeping, trees (planting, removal and trimming), road opening permits, and sidewalk inspection program. Prior to his current employment, Mr. Weed was the Superintendent of Public Works of the Village of Amityville and the Village of Brightwaters. He also worked as the General Foreman and was promoted to Deputy Superintendent of Public Works of the Village of Amityville. He has been an instructor for Weapons of Mass Destruction Awareness. A longtime member of the NYCOM Public Works Planning Committee; and a presenter at the NYCOM Public Works School. Mr. Weed attended the State University of Farmingdale where he studied Aerospace Engineering, and is a regular attendee of the Cornell Local Roads Program. He is a member of the Amityville Fire Department and served as Captain of Chemical Hose #3, and the Emergency Squad. He is the founder and a director of the Water Rescue Squad and has been a New York State Emergency Medical Tech for 24 years. He is also a PADI Rescue Diver. Mr. Weed is Public Works Leadership Fellow and is currently the Region 2 Director of the APWA.(New York, New Jersey, Pa. & Delaware) Has served the Long Island Branch as Director, Secretary, Vice President, and President of the Association. He was director of the New York Metro Chapter of APWA and has served as Vice President, President and Advisory Council Chairman and Delegate.

**Sheena Wright, President, United Way of New York City**

Sheena Wright was named President and CEO of United Way of New York City in October 2012. Prior to joining United Way, she served as President and CEO of the Abyssinian Development Corporation (ADC), where she was responsible for leading and managing one of the nation’s premiere community and economic development organizations. During her tenure, ADC built 785 units of residential housing in 78 buildings and nearly a half million square feet of community, commercial and retail space, including the first new high school building in Harlem in 50 years, creating over 1,000 jobs in the process.

Under Sheena’s leadership, ADC created the “Abyssinian Schools” division, which comprehensively manages five educational institutions that annually serve 2,100 school children and their families. She
developed an award-winning workforce development program which has helped 200 young high school drop-outs obtain their GED or high school diploma and secure gainful employment. She also developed a neighborhood-based Naturally Occurring Retirement Community that annually serves more than 1,000 seniors and increased the service delivery of ADC’s homeless shelter.

Sheena previously served as Chief Operating Officer of ADC. Prior to ADC, she served as the General Counsel and EVP of Business Development for Crave Technologies, a Senior Associate at the law firm of Reboul, MacMurray, Hewitt, Maynard and Kristol, and an Associate at the law firm of Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen and Katz.

Sheena serves on the board of trustees of the Vera Institute for Justice and the New York City Regional Economic Development Council. She is a graduate of Columbia University, which she entered at age 16, received her law degree from Columbia Law School, and is a member of the New York State Bar.