



Edward A. Thomas, Esq.

Edward A. Thomas, Esq., is the President *Emeritus* of the Natural Hazard Mitigation Association. He is an elected Fellow of the American Bar Association Foundation and past elected member of the Council of the State and Local Government Section (SLGL) of the American Bar Association (ABA). He is also an appointed member of the ABA Disaster Response and Preparedness Committee and also manages the ABA SLGL Resilience Task Force. In addition, Ed serves on the Steering Committee of the Climigration Network and the Advisory Committee of the Natural Hazards Center of the University of Colorado. He is a member of the National Institute of Building Sciences, and the Association of State Wetland Managers. He is a former Board Member of the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM); and currently serves as the Senior Liaison and Legal Liaison to the ASFPM No Adverse Impact Committee.

Ed retired from the Department of Homeland Security-Federal Emergency Management Agency after nearly thirty-five years of Public Service. During his time in government, he worked primarily in Disaster Mitigation, Preparedness and Response. He also was extensively involved in Community Development, during his nearly 10 years with the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Ed also worked for the Michael Baker Jr. Engineering firm for over eight years.

Ed worked on about two hundred disasters and emergencies, serving as the President's on scene representative, the Federal Coordinating Officer, dozens of times.

Attorney Thomas is a graduate of Fordham College and a *magna cum laude* graduate of the New England School of Law in Boston. He is a frequent lecturer on Emergency Management issues, especially the Constitutional and Legal Aspects of Floodplain Regulations. Currently he is an editor of a book-in-progress for ABA: *Making the Case for Resilience*. He has authored dozens of publications and articles on various Disaster Risk Reduction related issues and regularly participates as a member of National Task Forces and other boards in developing National disaster-related and floodplain management policies.

Ed has received numerous national and international awards including the nation's highest award for Floodplain Management: The Goddard-White Award from the Association of State Floodplain Managers. In addition, he received the Gulf of Maine Visionary Award from the International Gulf of Maine Council, for his efforts in helping develop the NOAA StormSmart Coasts Program; as well as the first lifetime achievement award from the Georgia Association of Floodplain Management. He also received the Arkansas Floodplain Management Association Superior Excellence Award as well as twice receiving their "Silver Sandbag" Award.

He manages a private practice of Law, Edward A. Thomas Esq., LLC and lives with his wife in the floodplain of beautiful Marina Bay in Quincy, Massachusetts.
