**Thomas S. Hughes**

State Hazard Mitigation Officer

Chief, Hazard Mitigation Division  
PA Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)

**Thomas S. Hughes** has been with PEMA 27 years in several key agency positions. As PA SHMO since 2009, has been responsible for over 200 Disaster and Non-Disaster Hazard Mitigation projects (Acquisition/Demolition, Elevation, Ice-Boom, Notification & Early Warning, Floodproofing, HM Planning (67Counties, 14DRU, State HMP) in excess of $100 million in HM dollars. Successfully closed DR-1898 (Snow Disaster), DR-4003 (NE PA Flooding), DR-4025 (Hurricane Irene), DR-4030 (Tropical Storm Lee), DR-4099 (Superstorm Sandy) and DR-4149 (11 County Continuous Flood Events); 90 Non-Disaster HM Grants (FMA, PDM, LPDM, RFC and SRL). Currently working 3 HMGP Disasters (DR-4267, 4292 and DR-4408, the latter having all projects into FEMA within 30 weeks). Pennsylvania Silver Jacket Co-Chair (2013 Team of the Year). Has completed the FEMA Advanced Floodplain Management Concept Courses (3). Completed a voluntary assignment with FEMA as a SHMO representative for three years to the FEMA HMA External Stakeholder Working Group. Is responsible for the transition of the state’s National Flood Insurance Program/Floodplain Management to PEMA and was the Acting Program Manager (in addition to SHMO duties) from July 1, 2018 to November 15, 2019; PEMA is a Cooperative Technical Partner and receives CAP-SSSE funds on a Notice of Subgrant from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development.  It should be noted that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has a tenth of all participating communities in the NFIP (2,450).

**PEMA State Hazard Mitigation Officer Position:**

* Serves as the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO), Function as principal staff assistant to the Bureau Director and PEMA Director in hazard mitigation matters; Supervises Hazard Mitigation personnel (HM Project Officers) assigned to the Bureau; oversight on all plans and projects, Serves as Chairman of the State All-Hazard Mitigation Planning Team and member of Pennsylvania’s Land-Use Committee and Co-Chair of the chartered Pennsylvania Silver Jackets Program (Replace the State Flood Task Force) which involves federal, state, local and professional association stakeholders. (Currently has 6 Full-Time, 2 Annuitants & 1 Clerical HM Staff assigned and 3 PEMA Area Staff supporting the NFIP and HM activities)

**Description of Duties/Responsibilities:**

* Assists state, county and municipal governments in natural hazard risk identification and the identification and implementation of cost effective measures that will reduce future losses resulting from natural disasters.
* Recommends, develops and implements procedures for efficient, effective administration of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Assistance (HMA) Programs: Disaster Grants – Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and Non-Disaster Grants- Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA).
* Assists in the administration of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program by:
  + Reviewing, recommending and submitting county and municipal government requests for hazard mitigation grant monies to FEMA; Providing technical advice and assistance to community leaders and other applicants concerning documentation requirements and disaster funding procedures; Acting as the applicant’s advocate in all matters related to project approval and administration;
  + Assisting in the preparation of internal directives associated with the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program;
* Develops and provides training to PEMA staff and augmenters, Joint Field Office (JFO) staff, Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) staff, and other interested parties on hazard mitigation.

**Emergency Assignment:**

* Assists in the establishment of the Joint Field Office located in the designated disaster area.
* Serves as the hazard mitigation expert on the JFO management team.
* Serves as team leader of the Hazard Mitigation Field Team in preliminary damage assessment (PDA) activities.
* Ensures notification of potential hazard mitigation applicants and conduct Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Applicants’ Briefing.

**Education:**

BA, Lycoming College, Business Administration, 1985, Williamsport, PA

AA Financial Management Specialist, Community College of the Air Force, 1987, Maxwell Air Force Base

**Professional Credentials:** 3x Certified Emergency Manager, NCCEM & International Assoc. of Emergency Managers 1995-2010 Employed by PEMA since 1993. Previous positions:  State Emergency Operations Duty Officer, State Radiological Officer, State Training Officer.  State EOC – Operations Section Chief; Infrastructure, Human Services, Recovery Branch Division Chief; US Air Force and USAF Reserves Retired (CMSgt): Emergency Management/Mission Support Group duties 1985-2013; deployed for Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom.