

# NEMA 2025 Annual Forum

## Little America Hotel & Resort



### Legal Counsel Committee

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025 | 10:30 – 11:30 AM  
GRAND BALLROOM

### Agenda

- **Navigating the New Terms & Conditions on Grants**
- **Indemnification and Working with the Private Sector**
- **Avoiding Bias and Ensuring Transparency in the Use of AI**

### Committee Members

**Chair:** Will Polk, NC

**Vice Chair:** Samantha Ladich, NV

All interested state legal counsels may participate.

**Private Sector Liaisons:** Sam Von Kopp (Cordatis), Danielle Aymond (Baker Donelson)

**Board of Directors Liaison:** A.J. Gary (AR)

**Whole Community Liaison:** Will Polk (NC)



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### EMAC Committee

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2025 | 1:30 – 2:30 PM

GRAND BALLROOM

### Agenda

- **Beyond the Call: Montana's Plan for a Faster, Leaner, Next-Gen EMAC**
- **Leveraging Volunteers through EMAC**
- **Update from the EMAC Executive Task Force & Discussion on Building the Next-Gen EMAC**
- **EMAC Guidelines and Recommendations for NSSEs**

### Presenters & Guests

Delila Bruno, Montana Department of Military Affairs | Kasey Fox, Mile High United Way | Butch Wise, Arizona Division of Emergency Management | Beth Zimmerman

### Committee Members

**Chair:** Kevin Sweeney, MI

**Vice Chair:** Bryan Fisher, AK

Jeff Smitherman, AL

Sima Merick, OH

Greg Engle, WI

Gabe Lavine, AZ

Patrick Sheehan, TN

Daryl Jaschen, VI

Angee Morgan, KS

**Private Sector Liaison:** Jeff Sopel (Bent Ear Solutions)

**Legal Committee Liaison:** Kristine Hoffman (NY)

**Past President Liaison:** Dave Maxwell

**Whole Community Liaison:** Kevin Sweeney (MI)



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### Resilience Committee

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2025 | 3:00 – 4:00 PM  
GRAND BALLROOM

### Agenda

- **FEMA Mitigation: Current Program Status and Looking Towards the Future**
- **Roundtable Discussion: Local Mitigation Funding Mechanisms**
- **Highlighting State Use of the Next Generation Warning System Grant Program**

### Presenters & Guests

Derrick Hiebert, AECOM | Will Polk, NC Department of Public Safety

### Committee Members

**Chair: Sima Merick, OH**

**Vice Chair: Bill Turner, CT**

A.J. Gary, AR  
Clint Osborn, DC  
Ben Roeber, ID  
Angee Morgan, KS  
Eric Gibson, KY  
Russ Strickland, MD  
Kim Stenson, SC

Jim Remillard, MO  
Kevin Reed, MN  
Delia Bruno, MT  
Ali Rye, NM  
Annie Vest, OK  
Marc Pappas, RI

Tina Titze, SD  
Patrick Sheehan, TN  
Kris Hamlet, UT  
Robert Ezelle, WA  
Greg Engle, WI  
Steven McCraney, MS

**Private Sector Liaisons:** Ross Ashley (KPMG), Aaron Davis (BuildStrong America)

**Legal Committee Liaison:** Will Polk (NC)

**Past President Liaison:** Jim Mullen

**Whole Community Liaison:** Kim Stenson (SC)



# NEMA 2025 Annual Forum

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### Homeland Security Committee

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2025 | 9:45 – 10:45 AM  
GRAND BALLROOM

#### Agenda

- **State Spotlight: Nevada's Response to a Statewide Cyber-Incident**
- **EM and Public Safety Partnership: Annunciation Catholic School**
- **Understanding the New Homeland Security Task Forces**

#### Presenters & Guests

Brett Compston, NV Office of Emergency Management/Homeland Security | Tim Robb, State of Nevada | Allison Farole, MN Department of Public Safety | Brandon Stiefer, DHS

#### Committee Members

**Chair:** AJ Schall, DE

**Vice Chair:** Rob Buxton, NH

Jeff Smitherman, AL  
Gabe Lavine, AZ  
A.J. Gary, AR  
Bill Turner, CT  
Clint Osborn, DC  
Brett Compston, NV

John Benson, IA  
Eric Gibson, KY  
Peter Rogers, ME  
Kevin Sweeney, MI  
Kevin Reed, MN  
Patrick Sheehan, TN

Will Ray, NC  
Darin Hanson, ND  
Erin McMahon, OR  
Jonathan Whitham, IN  
Ben Roeber, ID  
Patrick Callahan, NJ

**Private Sector Liaisons:** Greg Eaton (Ernest & Young), Risa Abraham (Fluor)

**Legal Committee Liaison:** Kimberly Zigich (CT)

**Past President Liaison:** Glen Woodbury

**Whole Community Liaison:** Clint Osborn (DC)



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### Private Sector Committee

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2025 | 1:30- 2:30 PM  
GRAND BALLROOM

### Agenda

- **Discussion of the Draft Private Sector Committee White Paper "Building Trust, Enhancing Readiness: Recommendations for Public-Private Alignment"**

### Presenters & Guests

Jay Harper, SLSCO | Jonathan Jenkins, AECOM

### Committee Members

**Chair:** Erica Bornemann  
AC Disaster Consulting

**Vice Chair:** Jay Harper  
SLSCO

All corporate and organizational members of NEMA.

**Legal Committee Liaison:** Stephanie Houp (FL)

**Whole Community Committee Liaison:** Erica Bornemann (ACDC)

**Board of Director Liaison:** A.J. Gary (AR)



# NEMA 2025 Annual Forum

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### Past Presidents Committee

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2025 | 6:00 pm–7:30PM  
HATHAWAYS RESTAURANT

### Agenda

- **What Can NEMA Do to Support States and Other Members in a Changing National Environment?**
- **What are the Long-Term Implications on the Profession of Reduced Opportunities at the Largest Single-Employer of EM? Is There Anything We Can Do to Plan for It?**

### Committee Members

**Chair:** Russ Strickland, MD

All Past Presidents are members of the committee.



# NEMA 2025 Annual Forum

## Little America Hotel & Resort



### Response & Recovery Committee

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2025 | 9:45-10:45 AM  
GRAND BALLROOM

#### Agenda

- **Small Business Administration (SBA) Brief**
- **New Mexico State Disaster Case Management Program**
- **Arkansas State Individual Assistance Program**

#### Presenters & Guests

Chris Stallings, SBA | Ali Rye, New Mexico | A.J. Gary, Arkansas | Jodi Lee, Arkansas

#### Committee Members

**Chair:** Angee Morgan, KS

**Vice Chair:** Tina Titze, SD

Bryan Fisher, AK  
A.J. Gary, AR  
Nancy Ward, CA  
Trevor Denney, CO  
AJ Schall, DE  
Kevin Guthrie, FL  
Josh Lamb, GA

James Barros, HI  
Eric Gibson, KY  
Russ Strickland, MD  
Allison Farole, MN  
Delila Bruno, MT  
Erv Portis, NE  
Darin Hanson, ND

Anne Vitale, OK  
Randy Padfield, PA  
Marc Pappas, RI  
Nim Kidd, TX  
Eric Forand, VT  
John Scrivani, VA  
GE McCabe, WV

**Private Sector Liaison:** Lee Siler (Walmart)

**Legal Committee Liaison:** Anne Vitale (OH)

**Past President Liaisons:** Bryan Koon, Nancy Dragani, Dave Maxwell

**Whole Community Liaison:** Russ Strickland (MD)



# NEMA 2025 Annual Forum

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### Whole Community Committee

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2025 | 11:00 am-12:00 PM  
Grand Ballroom

### Agenda

- **Access and Functional Needs Advisory Committees in Emergency Management**
- **Vulnerable Populations Mapping: How Data Mapping Can Support a Whole Community Approach**

### Presenters & Guests

Sadie Martinez, Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management | Dawn Brantley, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency

### Committee Members

**Chair:** Dawn Brantley, MA

Franklin Babauta, CNMI  
Clint Osborn, DC  
Kevin Sweeney, MI

Charles Esteves, GU  
Russ Strickland, MD  
Kim Stenson, SC

**Private Sector Liaisons:** James Joseph (Tidal Basin), Jeremiah Alvarez (Guidehouse)

**Legal Committee Liaison:** Kristine Hoffman (NY)

**Past President Liaison:** Mike Sprayberry



# NEMA 2025 Annual Forum

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### Legislative Committee

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2025 | 1:00 – 2:00 PM  
GRAND BALLROOM

### Agenda

- **Next Steps for The FEMA Act, H.R. 4669**
- **A Discussion on Congressional Jurisdiction**
- **Roundtable Discussion with Local Partners**
- **FEMA Reform and EMAC 2.0**

### Presenters & Guests

Natalie Enclade, BuildStrong America | Carrie Speranza, IAEM| Trina Sheets, NEMA

### Committee Members

**Chair:** John Benson, IA

**Vice Chair:** Darin Hanson, ND

Jeff Smitherman, AL

A.J. Gary, AR

Trevor Denney, CO

AJ Schall, DE

Clint Osborn, DC

Angee Morgan, KS

Russ Strickland, MD

Dawn Brantley, MA

Kevin Sweeney, MI

Rob Buxton, NH

Will Ray, NC

Sima Merick, OH

Patrick Sheehan, TN

Lynn Budd, WY

**Private Sector Liaisons:** Kristin Robinson (IEM), Jessica Stolz (Booz Allen Hamilton)

**Legal Committee Liaison:** Morgan Middleton (MS)

**Past President Liaison:** Wendy Smith-Reeve

