

# NARA and Katrina Lessons Learned

RACO – Washington

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# Disaster Cycle Phase

- Prevention

- Preparation

  - Area of maximum leverage of NARA resources

- Response

  - Period from onset of disaster until immediate threat to life and property is over

- Recovery

# Orleans Parish



# ***Katrina and Records***

## ***What Did We Learn?***

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- **The National Response Plan**
  - **Federal Records and COOP**
  - **Records of State and Local Governments**
    - **Issues of Identity Loss**
  - **Lack of Information at all Levels**
  - **Lack of Coordination**
  - **Conceptual Frame of Disaster Planning Inadequate**

# ***NARA, Katrina and Records***

## ***What Went Right***

- Disaster Guidance on the Web
- Response Training in Mississippi and for Federal Agencies
- Connections Made with DHS, FEMA, state officials, etc.
  - Emergency NHPRC Grants
- Mission Assignment for Coroner's Office
- More proactive with Rita and Wilma
- The "First Preserver" Concept

# What's Happened Since Last Fall

- Worked with DHS, FEMA, OPM, GSA, and the FEBs in Disaster Planning and Improved Communications
  - Built solid relationship with FEMA office responsible for response in the federal sector
- Worked to Get Records as a Specifically Recognized National Asset in the National Response Plan
  - **Have succeeded in getting records added to the definition of “asset” in the NIIPP**
- Initiated an MOU with CoSA to Deliver 50 State Disaster Plans year's end
  - Morrow Conference
  - Completion of CoSA Planning for 9 States by June 1 “Start” of Hurricane Season
- Provided Additional Training Program in Louisiana
- Continued Work on Orleans Parish Records Recovery Mission Assignment
- Developed RM “Vital Records” Training Module
- Contracted to Pilot a Vital Records Training Program for State of New Jersey
- Participation in Katrina “Hot Wash” Sessions
  - Washington
  - New Orleans
  - Houston
- Work with Interior/National Park Service re: ESF #11 and NARA Sub-Tasking Role
- Began to develop NARA contacts with regional emergency management counterparts and state records program counterparts
  - Coordinated Training