

Dennis A. Quan Disaster Recovery Specialist



Contact Dennis A. Quan

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Dennis A. Quan has 35 plus years in disaster management. In his present role as Recovery Specialist with James Lee Witt Associates (Witt Associates), Mr. Quan is providing support to the Louisiana's Governor Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) with Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) and engineering review of GOHSEP's 404 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) applications to FEMA's Hurricane Katrina and Rita Recovery funds. Mr. Quan's job is basically to "bullet-proof" application to survive multiple layer of FEMA review. His work also includes training of GOHSEP staff.

Mr. Quan previously was Chief Technology Officer of Adnama Development LLC. He help developed the state-of-the-art technology for debris management for FEMA disaster reimbursement.

Prior to Witt Associates, Mr. Quan also served many areas in FEMA (over ten years and 47 presidential disaster declarations), including Hazard Mitigation Officer, Technical Service Branch Chief, Civil Engineer, Hazard Mitigation Specialist, Floodplain Manager, and 406 Hazard Mitigation Lead. Mr. Quan has lead/trained large engineering teams in developing 406 Hazard Mitigation Proposals (HMP) in using outside of the box approaches to mitigation. During Hurricane Charley, Mr. Quan personally developed half of all HMP's written in the state. Mr. Quan received FEMA Special Recognition Award in 2005 as the Best Hazard Mitigator. Mr. Quan has trained and certified 500 people in 406 Hazard Mitigation. In addition, he has been involved with FEMA HMGP program since 1997, which includes development and review of HMGP applications and being part of closeout teams.

Mr. Quan has been part of a FEMA team that developed major Loss Avoidance Studies for Southern California, which clearly demonstrated that these HMGP projects have a 40% return on investment after just one major event after the flood control measures have been put in place and

operational. Mr. Quan has reviewed major projects, such as the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) studies after Katrina, and has been involved with development of many FEMA engineering reports/publications. For example, Mr. Quan developed the "Non-traditional Coastal Construction Practices" report and the initial draft of FEMA's "Hurricane Mitigation Handbook for Public Assistance." Further, Mr. Quan had the special assignment of developing FEMA Report on Repetitive Loss Structures for Minnesota. Additionally, Mr. Quan was a contributor to FEMA 543, Risk Management Series, Design Guide for Improving Critical Facility Safety from Flooding and High Wind.

Mr. Quan holds a Master of Science in Hydrology/Water Resources Planning and Management with a concentration in mathematical hydrological/hydraulic modeling and mathematical modeling of environmental systems from the University of Wyoming at Laramie. He also holds a Bachelors of Arts in Nuclear and Environmental Physics from the University of California at Berkeley, with a concentration in electrical engineering, mathematics, ecology, qualitative method and computer science, and completed pre-doctoral work in Chemical Engineering.