



New Orleans

Jacksonville



120,000
Voters

Hurricane

Oct 10th 2018

“Michael”

Tampa

Gulf of
Mexico

(17 Days to Normal Early Voting)

“You learn the most during the toughest times.”

- Mark Andersen, Bay County SOE-



“One Day Better Than You Were Yesterday!”



**Attitude and Confidence
Greatly affects your success or short fall.**

“The Only Easy Day was Yesterday!”



Challenges/Opportunity

Personnel

- ❖ Staff and Staff families with total loss of Homes....
- ❖ Precinct Election Officials (Poll Workers)

Infrastructure

- ❖ Roof off of the Main Office Building
 - ❖ Flooded from 2nd Floor
- ❖ 70% + of the planned Polling Locations Damaged beyond use or were used for recovery efforts.

Challenges/Opportunity

Communication

- ❖ *Emergency Off Site Systems unavailable due to physical Fiber damage*
- ❖ *Zero Communication for 3 Days*

Equipment

- ❖ *3 Servers/Multiple Switches Flooded*

Security

- ❖ *Security Patrols*
- ❖ *Curfews affecting travel of staff and election personnel.*

System Damage/Impact to Election

Every single area was affected by Category 4 PLUS Hurricane Michael. The office was like a rain forest (8,000 sqft.)

- Limited Impact due to the quick response and actions of those on site during the first two days using plastic covers, shifting equipment, and physically monitoring.*
- Utilized 151 out of 600 Precinct Election Officials (Poll Workers) that were available to work .*
- Organized 6 Mega Voting Sites for 11 days and 4 Mini Mega Sites for one day.*

Mitigation Process/Impact

Address Five Main Topics Uniformly

- ✓ *Personnel*
- ✓ *Infrastructure*
- ✓ *Communication*
- ✓ *Equipment*
- ✓ *Security*

- Analyze each area for non conformances*
- Provide a Corrective Action to perform and monitor success*
- Review accomplishments and short falls and repeat list until fully functional.*

Long Term Mitigation Process/Impact

- *Method of Precinct Voting were not available due to the massive damage in our county.(MEGA Voting Sites will be the voting format in emergency conditions)*
- *Displaced Voters that will not be in their homes for extended time.*
- *Number of available election workers available for future elections.*

Helpful Partnerships

✓ *State and Other County Supervisor's of Election proved to be the best and most productive with quick response.*

✓ *Federal level was only used for staff housing and emergency food supplies.*

Warning

✓ *It is not FEMA's role to support elections, they support people and life conditions, not elections.*

Helpful Assistance in the Future

Any back-up systems

Communication Capabilities

*One example is our new:
Mobile Communications System,
with multiple phones and cradle
capabilities to multiple cell phone
vendors.*

*This removes the single cell phone
provider failure.*



Helpful Assistance in the Future

******Establish Emergency Inventory Between Counties for use in an emergency.***

- ***Power Cords***
- ***Portable Lights***
- ***Portable Generators***
- ***Election Equipment***
- ***Short Term Staffing***

Advise to Others Facing a Similar Situation

- Have a Quality Management Program in place!*
- Bay County is ISO 9001:2015 certified , it requires uniform procedures and an annual audit by an outside auditor to enforce proper use and existence. It was proven very important in recovery.*
- No sole source individuals should exist in your office.*
- From this experience I would never recommend a single method of voting, if we would have had only Vote By Mail the outcome of the election may have been very different, if even possible.*

Example 90 – 61 Days Away from Election Day Emergency Recovery

Election Day 90-61 Days Away

Effective Date/*Time: ___/___/___ * ___:___ ___ a.m. ___ p.m.

Personnel

- Non Conformance: _____
- Corrective Action: _____

Equipment

- Non Conformance: _____
- Corrective Action: _____

Infrastructure

- Non Conformance: _____
- Corrective Action: _____

Security

- Non Conformance: _____
- Corrective Action: _____

Communication

- Non Conformance: _____
- Corrective Action: _____

Without uniformity in correction, it is more difficult to measure success or need for improvement.

- Document
- Analyze
- Improve
- Write Procedure for repeatability

Recovery is just one clear need and procedure away!

The End

