

Speaker Biographies



Maria Stanton
Continuity Specialist
Continuity of Operations Division
National Continuity Programs, FEMA

Ms. Maria Stanton is a Continuity Specialist of the State, Territorial, Tribal, and Local (STTL) Branch for the Continuity of Operations Division, National Continuity Programs (NCP). As a program manager for the STTL Branch, Maria oversees Continuity training and workshop initiatives for non-Federal entities. Ms. Stanton also assists in the development of continuity policy and guidance for non-Federal governmental organizations, as well as field offices for FEMA. One of her major projects involves the Joint Field Office (JFO) Continuity of Operations Plan Template, enabling a more unified way for the planning and programs in preparation for JFOs to better respond to the public during continuity events. Other responsibilities include the following: develop and maintain Continuity planning and awareness training for Joint Field Offices; coordinate continuity training workshops between non-Federal and Federal government jurisdictions; and conduct workshops that address joint Federal and non-Federal Government continuity planning, such as the new Continuity Terrorism Workshop Guardian Accord.



Ms. Stanton is also a liaison between Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Headquarters and FEMA Regional Continuity Program Managers, coordinating events, and disseminating policy, guidance and exercise template updates for States, territorial, tribal, and local government jurisdictions. She also works closely with FEMA HQ Public Affairs for continuity-related press releases and promotional material, managing the development and maintenance of Continuity brochures, videos, and the FEMA Continuity of Operations Division web site.

During her previous position in the Federal Branch, Ms. Stanton was the Training Manager for National Continuity Programs. Maria also managed the following: the coordination of the former Continuity of Operations Interagency Working Group (IA CWG) for the National Capital Region, the management of Continuity of Operations Federal Policy and Guidance, Continuity Pandemic Planning, the development of Federal Continuity Directive 1, and assistance to Continuity Federal Exercise planning (e.g. National Level Exercise 2-08 and 2010), and working with staff from the FEMA HQ and several departments and agencies in providing guidance and direction on their Continuity of Operations planning. Ms. Stanton was also heavily involved in the development of the Continuity Practitioner Program.

While serving in the acting capacity of Management Analyst, Ms. Stanton served as a Human Resources liaison for NCP, assisting with the selection process for positions within NCP. Some of her responsibilities included the following: reporting to the Executive Officer and Deputy Assistant Administrator of NCP on personnel actions, briefing NCP leadership and consulting with senior management on hiring efforts and employee development, and developing and implementing ideas for improved office organization and retention of employee records for NCP staff.

For four years, prior to joining NCP, Maria Stanton assisted the Administrator, Deputy Administrator, and Chief Council of FEMA, by coordinating both internal and external meetings with senior officials on policy and legal guidance concerning emergency management. Before joining FEMA, she worked in the telecommunications and satellite industry as Marketing and Documentation Specialist, managing projects that involved market strategy planning, updating sales literature and technical manuals, and coordinating trade show events and site visits.

Ms. Stanton holds a B.A. in Business Communication from Rockhurst University, Kansas City, Missouri. Maria resides in the metropolitan Washington, DC area, in Woodbridge, VA.

David Cid
Executive Director
Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism

David Cid is Executive Director of MIPT in Oklahoma City, a non-profit training and professional development center serving the line officer.

Prior to joining the MIPT in 2006 as deputy director, Mr. Cid was President of Salus International, a consulting practice providing Security, Crisis Management, and Business Continuity services. Clients included the United States Army, the FBI, the Department of State, and Fortune 500 companies. For two years, he was an advisor to foreign governments on counterterrorism in Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America.



Mr. Cid is a 20 year veteran of the FBI, where he served as a counterterrorism specialist. He was a member of the FBI International Crisis Response Team and while assigned to the New York field office, a member of the FBI Special Weapons and Tactics Team.

Mr. Cid has been on-scene commander in extortions, kidnappings, and acts of terrorism and has led special events security planning for the World Series, the Special Olympics, and the U.S. Open. In 1996, he supervised the first successful investigation and prosecution under the Biological Weapons Antiterrorism Act, interdicting a plot to assassinate federal and local officials.

A native of New York, Mr. Cid joined the FBI in 1981, retiring as an Inspector and Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Oklahoma City Field Office. Prior to his FBI service, he was a Human Resources specialist for AT&T. He is a veteran for the Vietnam War, honorably discharged.

For more information about the [Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism](#) visit their website.