

# GREGORY A. PADGETT



DISASTER MANAGEMENT & COMMUNICATIONS VETERAN PROMOTING PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND MITIGATION PROGRAMS SUPPORTING DIVERSE AND BIPOC COMMUNITIES. CERTIFIED METEOROLOGIST, EMERGENCY MANAGER, ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTER, AND CLIMATE CHANGE SPECIALIST.

## CAREER OVERVIEW

Expertise developing and implementing Federal, State, and Local government disaster preparedness and response campaigns.

## KEY COMPETENCIES

- FEMA Disaster Planning Consultant
- Expertise in Exercise Design, Public Education, Event Deployment and Response
- Previous State Emergency Manager, Natural Hazards Risks Program Manager
- Crisis Communications and Event Management
- Active Shooter, Severe Weather, Earthquake, Hurricane Mitigation Planning Experience, Media and Public Information Trainer
- Diversity and Equity Advocate
- Award winning communicator, podcaster, storyteller

## CONTACT INFO:

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## Portfolio Website:

GregAPadgett.com

## WORK SUMMARY

### Director of External Affairs, Communications - Media Relations Consultant, Program Lead

Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency Management (I-DIEM) | 2020 - Present

- Communications and media relations managing consultant leading media engagement, press release development, media pitching, editorial calendar development, and storytelling.
- Supported disaster response deployments with field photography and storytelling.
- HERricane Program Manager - managed national program aimed at encouraging diverse young women to consider careers in the emergency management, STEM, meteorology, and insurance sectors.

### Media Relations Director

The Recycling Partnership | April 2022 to November 2022

- Managed media relations engagement, media pitching, press release writing and distribution, fielding media inquiries, media monitoring, media training, and developing crisis communications tactics.
- Successfully engaged top tier national media outlets and secured high profile interviews.

### Communications - Media Relations Consultant

Baltimore City Health Department | December 2021 to Present

- Communications and media relations consultant served as interim Communications Manager leading agency's COVID-19 messaging.
- Managed media relations engagement, media pitching, press release writing and distribution, content development, and fielding media inquiries.
- Coordinated with Commissioner, executive team, Mayor's Office, and city PIOs to develop key messages to socialize with the public.
- Served as a media relations and communications subject matter expert to include media training, communications strategy, and planning.

### Media Relations & Community Outreach, Podcast Producer/Host

Rising Phoenix Holdings Corporation- Tidal Basin Group - Adjusters International | Dec 2019 - Sept 2021

- Identified corporate media relations opportunities and managed the pitching of C-Suite executives; Developed earned media opportunities; Created press releases, blogs, and videos promoting corporate case studies, projects, and milestones.
- Managed Company Speakers Bureau; Identified media opportunities and Community Outreach partnerships. Identified Diversity Scholarship Program for minority students. Created and managed corporate philanthropic campaign - **Tidal Basin Cares**
- Produced and hosted the **Disaster Recovery Roundtable** podcast.

### Strategic Communications Analyst - External Affairs Consultant, Federal Government (FEMA, CDC, EPA)

ICF | Nov 2012 - Dec 2019

- Provided strategic communications for National Preparedness Campaign for FEMA's Individual and Community Preparedness Division; engaged regional and local media, external partners, and local emergency managers.
- Earned Media Lead for Centers for Disease Control for National Opioid Prescription Awareness Campaign
- Served as External Affairs SME for multiple FEMA disaster deployments
- Received ICF Employee Recognition Award (twice) for providing 'exceptional service' to FEMA's ICPD in support of a national preparedness campaign.
- Received two spot performance awards for providing exceptional support to clients.

### Media Relations-Corporate Communications, Sr. Planner, FEMA Consultant

Tetra Tech EMI | Sept 2009 - Oct 2012

- External Affairs Lead SME for FEMA Catastrophic Planning Initiative
- Supervised team of six regional and state planners for FEMA contract
- Facilitated Public Information Training Sessions and served as Media Relations SME for FEMA's National Radiological Exercise Program

# GREGORY A. PADGETT

EMERGENCY MANAGER - CRISIS  
COMMUNICATOR - METEOROLOGIST -  
CLIMATE AND EQUITY ADVOCATE -  
LGBTQA+ ADVOCATE

## EDUCATION

### Mississippi State University

Broadcast Meteorology | Aug 1994 - Aug 1997

- Broadcast Meteorology Degree Program
- Specialized in Hurricane Forecasting
- Authored research project on east coast frontal trough impacts on hurricanes.

### University of Georgia

Bachelor of Arts (Pending) | Sept 1985 - Dec '90

- Specialized in Broadcast Journalism, Video Production, and Communications Writing
- Political Science Minor
- Served as news anchor for WGAU/WNGC
- Political News Reporter for WUOG

## PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

- Adobe Creative Cloud platforms including Premiere Pro, Audition, Premiere Rush. Canva
- Experienced in Meltwater, Cision, and Muckrack media engagement platforms
- Federal social media and public information training
- Over **400 professional development hours** from in Disaster Preparedness and Response

## AWARDS & HONORS

NWA **Broadcast Seal of Approval**

AMS **Broadcast Seal of Approval**

NWA **Broadcaster of the Year** (2000)

NWA **Public Education Award** (2000)

Florida Governor's Hurricane Conference -

**Media Award**

Florida Governor's Hurricane Conference -

**Public Education Award**

## FEMA External Affairs Consultant - Sr. Planner

IEM | June 2004 - September 2009

- Led External Affairs Planning for FEMA's Catastrophic Hurricane Planning Initiative
- Supported External Affairs for FEMA response to Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma in 2005
- Project Manager for FEMA DVD on Long Term Recovery Programs
- Provided media training to various local emergency managers in support of Pennsylvania Media Training Contract.

## Program Manager, Staff Meteorologist, Public Information Officer

Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) | Feb 2002 - June 2004

- Staff Meteorologist and Agency Spokesperson for Severe Weather preparedness related campaigns
- Developed and managed State-wide Media Engagement Tour.
- Agency Public Information Officer - responsible for leading media training, writing news articles, and representing the agency in public.
- Developed and moderated media and public education conference workshops.

## Broadcast Meteorologist

The Weather Channel | April 2002 - Nov 2007

- Provided weather forecasts for Top 20 Major Radio Markets including Washington, DC, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Detroit, Chicago, and Cleveland.
- Supported Project Safe Side public education campaign

## Broadcast Journalist-Meteorologist

Various TV Stations | Jan 1990 - Nov 2001

- **WVLT** - Knoxville, TN
- **WTOC** - Savannah, GA
- **WRDW** - Augusta, GA
- **WTKR** - Norfolk, VA
- **WPBF** - West Palm Beach, FL

## VOLUNTEER/ADVOCACY

### National Hurricane Conference

Media & Public Education Committee Chair, Nonprofit Chair | 2012 - Present

- Responsible for identifying, managing, and moderating public education and media related workshop topics
- Support conference media relations and outreach activities

### Unite to Light

Board Member | 2021 - 2023

- Currently serving 2 year term on Unite to Light's Board of Directors. Support identifying emergency management and engagement with the disaster response community.

## WORK REFERENCES

**Vince Davis** Email: [Vdavis@feedingamerica.org](mailto:Vdavis@feedingamerica.org)

Director of Disaster Services - Feeding America

**Leslie Chapman Henderson** Email: [Leslie@flash.org](mailto:Leslie@flash.org)

CEO, Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH)

**Mary Hudak** Email: [Mary.Hudak@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Mary.Hudak@fema.dhs.gov)

External Affairs Director, FEMA Region IV, Atlanta

**Karen Gruebnau,**

Communications Manager, ICF