

RAFAEL ROMÁN RODRÍGUEZ

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As a professional, I continuously expand my expertise in areas such as health, occupational safety, facility security, environmental management, rescue operations, hazardous materials and waste, fire prevention and firefighting, among others, all aimed at benefiting and supporting students and clients.

As an instructor, emergency response specialist, and consultant in these fields, I apply my knowledge, skills, and passion for teaching to create a positive, engaging learning environment. I help students achieve academic success while embracing new challenges and learning opportunities to grow professionally.

Emergency planning, response, recovery, and continuity of operations are crucial for individuals, businesses, and industries. My work in this area is focused on developing and executing comprehensive plans and exercises tailored to handle all types of emergency situations.

EXPERIENCE

2020-01 – PRESENT

SPECIALIST IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE, PLANNING, COORDINATION, INSTRUCTOR AND CONSULTING, PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Provide Professional Services based on evaluation, risk analysis, planning, coordination, and training in responses to all types of emergencies. Evaluate existing plans or develop new one after performing a risk analysis, develop training and exercise for all types of emergency plans. Instruction on federal and state topics, laws, and regulations such as Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Fire Protection Association (NFPA), United States Coast Guard (USCG), Bureau of Emergency Management and Disaster Administration (NMEAD), Department of Homeland Security of the United States (DHS) and others. Consultancy and Supervision services in various work & emergencies with the industry.

Provide services as a Technical Manager Specialized in responses to Environmental Emergencies and Hazardous Materials in the Northern Area of Puerto Rico for the Prime Restoration Services LLC.

2017-04 – 2020-01

EMERGENCY RESPONSE SPECIALIST, INSTRUCTOR, OPERATIONS MANAGER AND CONSULTANT, SPECIALTY TRAINING GROUP INC.

Operations Manager for Puerto Rico Fire, Rescue & Safety Institute, in addition to providing service as an instructor in response to emergencies with hazardous materials, fires, multi-hazard emergency plans, confined spaces, evacuation plans and drills, earthquakes, tsunamis, security, mitigation plans and Health and Safety programs. Be a reserve responder during maintenance in industries, where an emergency may occur due to a spill, fire, among others.

2017-09 – 2018-01

CHIEF OF OPERATIONS (VOLUNTEER), PUERTO RICO URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE (PRUSAR)

Assist the Task Force Leader in carrying out all the search and rescue coordination in Puerto Rico after Hurricane María and coordinate the support that corresponds to the Emergency Support Function 9 in the Central Island Coordination Task Force. Coordinate all the supply of water and food to the isolated communities through air transportation. Also, coordinate and carried out rescues of survivors who have been trapped in isolated communities. Assist the telecommunications industries to reestablish the communications. Collaborated with FEMA staff in conducting interviews with mayors in isolated or uncommunicated municipalities.

2010 – 2017-04

EMERGENCY RESPONSE SPECIALIST AND INTERAGENCY COORDINATOR, PUERTO RICO ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY (PREPA)

Manage and operate the Technical Operation Center for emergencies. Exercise and ensure compliance with the Agency response plans. Develop and implement drills and exercise. Coordinate the PREPA resources with the Puerto Rico Emergency Management Agency in situations of emergencies or natural disasters. Aid the specialized personnel in the generation's plants regarding response and fire prevention.

2013 – 2017

SPOKESPERSON OF THE INTERAGENCY COORDINATORS COMMITTEE, PUERTO RICO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (PREMA)

Lead and guide the works of the Committee created under the Executive Order of the Governor of PR to work directly with the Executive Director of the agency, to support the Operations Division and the Emergency Operations Center of Agency in Emergencies, Exercises, Training, and train in Threat & Risk Analysis to all the agencies of the Government.

2001 – 2017

ADMINISTRATOR OF THE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER, PUERTO RICO ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY (PREPA)

Prepare the Emergency Operations Center of this agency for its complete development. Coordinate the maintenance of this center. Establish activation, implementation, performance, and training protocols for all the personnel who work in it. Responsible for the operation and proper functioning of this center with the entire agency internally and foreign federal and state agencies.

2001 – 2010

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST & ALTERNATE INTERAGENCY COORDINATOR, PUERTO RICO ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY (PREPA)

Respond to emergency situations at all the PREPA facilities, including incidents involving hazardous materials. Prepare emergencies response plans, eviction, among others. Serve as a representative of the corporation with other agencies in emergency situations. Perform exercises and drills. Train in disaster preparedness, fire suppression, use and handling of extinguishers, Emergencies Evacuations Plans, among others.

1990 – 2001

SPILLS CONTROL, FIRE & EMERGENCIES RESPONSE OFFICER,

PUERTO RICO ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY (PREPA), PALO SECO STEAM PLANT

Respond and lead incidents related to emergencies by spills, fires, and any other situation that represents a risk in the plant. Ensure the maintenance and operation of all fire protection systems. Train personnel in fire prevention, initial response to emergencies with hazardous materials, among others. Prepare and update plans for emergency response, Evacuation plans, fire prevention, among others.

EDUCATION

1989

THREE AND A HALF YEARS GRADUATE, SAN JUAN CITY COLLEGE

Graduated with honors Summa Cum Laude, in Electronic Technology and Engineering

1983

HIGH SCHOOL, LINCOLN MILITARY ACADEMY

With the rank of Colonel, the Battalion Commander of Cadets, the highest rank chosen by a cadet.

SKILLS

- Instructional Techniques, Instructor NFPA 1041 (TEEX)
- Instructor National Incident Management System
- Instructor Emergency Medical Response in Disaster
- Instructor Continuous Operations Plan (COOP)
- OSHA 510 Regulation in Construction
- Analysis Vulnerability, Risks and Threat Assessment
- Operations in Lines for Distribution of Natural Gas
- Search and Rescue Specialist
- Basic Emergencies Medical Technician
- First Aid & CPR Certified
- Instructor of Certified Homeland Protection Associate (CHPA) Homeland Security
- Develop and Consultant for Emergencies Planning
- Air Rescue with Heli-tactics
- Instructor Community Emergency Response Team
- Instructor & Specialist for Emergency Response on Hazardous Materials
- Instructor for HAZWOPER
- Instructor & Industrial Firefighter
- Instructor for Terrorism and Weapon of Mass Destruction
- Hazmat Technician in Weapons of Mass Destruction
- Operation and Management of Emergency Operational Center
- Rescue in Collapsed Structures, Trenches and Confined Spaces
- Instructor in Entry Confine Spaces
- Instructor & Specialist of Rescue in Confine Space
- Instructor in Use, Manage Fire Extinguisher, Firefighting Technics & Prevention
- Instructor High Angle Rescue Technics

- Instructor of Community Emergency Response Teams (C.E.R.T.)
- 30 years of experience working with Power Generation Plants and the Electric Transmission and Distribution System of PR (PREPA)

ACTIVITIES

- I am an active member (Volunteer) of the Urban Search and Rescue Task Force of Puerto Rico, here I perform as the Planning leader.
- I am an active member (Volunteer) of the United States Coast Guard, here I work as an instructor, inspector of recreational and commercial vessels, I also work as an Interagency Coordinator in the Emergency Operations Center for hurricanes Irma and Maria.
- Participate in response, coordination, and rescue in major events such as:
 - Fire at the Dupont Plaza Hotel in San Juan, PR (Honored for Heroic Act)
 - Search and Rescue in the Cerro Mameyes Landslide, Ponce PR
 - Fire of Great Proportions Palo Seco Electricity Generating Plant
 - Humberto Vidal Building Explosion in Rio Piedras, PR
 - Search and Rescue in the collapse of the Twin Towers in New York City
 - Explosion and fire of great proportions at the Gulf refinery “CAPECO” in Cataño, PR
 - Massive rescue of passengers from the maritime accident of the Regina Ship in Isla de Mona, PR
 - Massive rescue of the fire passengers of the Caribbean Fantasy Cruise Ship in San Juan, PR
 - Working in coordination, response, search, and rescue in the January 2020 earthquake South Zone of PR
 - Working in coordination, response, search and rescue in Hurricanes like Hugo, Georges, Hortensia, Irma, Maria, Irene, Earl, Erika, Jeanne among others.
 - Working in the Federal and State Emergency Operations Center for Hurricane María, where I was in charge of developing the planning, coordination, intelligence, search and planning of helicopter flights for totally isolated or trapped families.
 - I’m made several rescues with the implementation of Heli-tactics.