Joe Hernandez, EMTP, CCP

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Curriculum Vitae

Relevant Disaster Response Experience:

- Surfside Building Collapse, 2021 Urban Search & Rescue (US&R ESF9) Incident Support Team. serve as liaison with FLUSAR Medical Teams on-site and local hospital resources. Assist with medical base of operations planning and operations for federal (2) and state (6) disaster response agencies. Assisted with need for extended post incident stress issues. Provided FEMA US&R After Action Incident Report
- Haiti Earthquake, 2021 US&R Medical Operations Chief South Florida Task Force, established operations command for disaster assistance with initial search and rescue medical missions in affected areas for entrapped victim rescue and recovery. Liaison for Task Force Coordination with Operation Project Medishare (University of Miami), the Haitian Health Foundation, and others. Coordinate and request supply and equipment donations from health care manufactures and vendors for medical mission support. Assist with air asset coordination for transportation and distribution of donated medical supplies.
- Hurricane Sandy, 2012 Urban Search & Rescue Incident Support Team (US&R) Medical Operations Chief, Rear Operating Base Medical Coordination, Logistics, Family Support, Extended Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (EPTSD), Research and Development
- Haiti Earthquake, 2010 –US&R Medical Operations Chief, established forward base operations command at disaster site with initial search and rescue medical missions in surrounding collapsed buildings for entrapped victim rescue and recovery. Establish medical rear base of operations along with equipment cache management. Liaison for State Department and Task Force Coordination, rescue research and development, EPTSD, TF Spanish Press/Media relations.
- Hurricane Ike, 2008 US&R FL-TF2 Medical Operations Chief, Rear Operating Base Medical Coordination and medical equipment cache management, medical coordination, logistics, and research and development, EPTSD, TF Spanish Press/Media relations.
- Hurricane Katrina, 2005 US&R FL-TF2 Medical Operations Chief and Liaison for FEMA/US&R Medical Teams including local and State EMS/Hospital Services both in Gulf Port, MS and New Orleans, LA. Assist Incident Support Teams in the initial assessment of health and medical needs for responders and the community. Established management, triage and treatment facility for over 1000 on-site response personnel, assist TF with Spanish Press/Media relations.
- Hurricanes Jeanne. Charlie and Ivan, 2004 US&R FL-TFII Medical Operations Chief, served as Liaison between FLTF2 other FEMA/US&R Medical Teams and local EMS/Hospital Services along Florida's West Coast and Panhandle. Established forward base operations command at disaster site with initial search and rescue medical missions Establish medical rear operations base of operations along with equipment cache management. Assist TF with Spanish Press/Media relations.
- World Trade Center Attacks "Ground Zero", 2001 US&R FL-TF2 Medical Operations Chief. established forward base operations command at disaster site. Provide medical search and rescue missions in surrounding buildings and WTC sub-basement levels for victim rescue and recovery. Establish medical rear operations base of operations along with equipment cache management. Served as Liaison between FEMA Task Forces, FDNY, ESU, Port Authority, DMAT Medical Command Triage, assist with TF with Spanish Press/Media relations.

- Florida Fires, 1998 Brevard and Flagler Counties, FL Fire-Medical Team Leader for local and State mutual aid response and Liaison for local Fire-EMS agencies.
- US Olympics, 1996 Atlanta US&R FL-TF2 Medical Operations Chief, established rear base operations medical command on planning for initial search and rescue missions if incident occurs. Equipment cache management and storage. Liaison for Task Force, other US&R Medical Teams and local EMS/Hospital/Public Health Services. Assisted with National Stockpile WMD resources. Establish education program for medical response personnel while in stand-by mode.
- Value Jet Crash, 1996 Florida Everglades Recovery/Dry Suit Rescue Medic Diver. Establish and support forward base medical operations command and equipment at disaster site. Advisor to local and State Emergency Management officials.
- Hurricane Opal. 1996 Florida Panhandle US&R FL-TF2 Medical Team Coordinator/Specialist and Liaison for Task Force other US&R Teams along with local and State EMS/Hospital Services. Establish medical forward and rear base of operations along with equipment cache management. Serve as PIO with Spanish Press/Media relations.
- Humberto Vidal Building Explosion, 1996 San Juan, Puerto Rico-US&R FL-TF2 Medical Specialist Operations Chief, established forward base operations medical command at disaster site. Provide initial search and rescue medical missions for victim rescue and recovery. Establish medical rear base of operations along with equipment cache management. Liaison for FEMA with local PREMA/EMS/Hospital/Public Health Minister and serve as PIO with Spanish Press/Media relations.
- Oklahoma City Bombing, 1995 US&R FL-TF2 Medical Operations Specialist, assist to establish forward base operations medical command at disaster site. Provide medical search and rescue support missions for victim rescue and recovery. US&R Research and Development After-Action, serve as PIO with Spanish Press/Media relations for local and State officials.
- Hurricane Andrew, 1992 Homestead, Florida Medical Officer for Primary Search & Rescue Strike Teams as member of Incident Support Team. Assist with establishing hospital stand-alone within a damaged home to serve as Auxiliary Field Hospital and Triage Center for local residents and State Emergency Management officials. Medical Officer and translator for military triage and transport field operations and evacuations.
- US&R Florida Task Force II, 1993 Task Force Medical Coordinator. Establish required FEMA US&R medical equipment cache through procurement and storge. Establish MOU with local hospital for medical pharmaceuticals preparation, storage, deployment, and re-supply. Create protocols for 24/7 cache availability during disasters. Create training programs for unfamiliar medications and protocols.

Employment and Positions:

- Matlacha Pine Island Fire Control District (MPIFCD), 2023 Current Board of Fire Commissioner
- DHS / FEMA / Urban Search and Rescue (ESF 9), 2011 2020 (Ret.) Medical Disaster Liaison-Medical Team Education and Training Coordinator
- DHS / FEMA / Urban Search and Rescue, 1992 2011 (Ret.) City of Miami US&R Medical Coordinator / National Coordinator / FEMA SME Curriculum Development
- City of Hialeah Fire Rescue Department, 1991 2011 (Retired) Fire Fighter / Paramedic / Engineer / Officer
- Pompano Beach Fire Rescue, 1988 -1991 Fire Fighter / Paramedic
- State of Florida Division of Forestry 1986 1988 Fire Fighter / Ranger

- Infection Reduction Partners, 2020 Current Fed/Gov Public Safety Operations Consultant. A cross-sector collaborator, working with humanitarian aid organizations, healthcare professionals, ministries of health, innovative medical suppliers, and logistics providers, all working together to reduce wound infections.
- Medical Special Operations Community (MSOC) nonprofit 501(c)3. 2017 Current Co-Founder / Officer. Dedicated to advancing the art and science of emergency disaster education, preparedness, and response for responders through lectures, presentations, and events.
- Disaster Medical Solutions (DMS) LLC, 2010 Current Director - Training, Education, Consulting, and Management in Disaster and CBRNE Medicine
- State Urban Search and Rescue SUSAR Alliance Medical Working Group Chairperson 2018 Current
- State of Florida Bureau of Fire Standards and Training Provider (DMS), 2012 Current Urban Search & Rescue Disaster Medical Program and K9 Emergency Care
- FEMA National Urban Search & Rescue (US&R) Response System, 1998 Current US&R Medical Team Training Program – Instructor / Coordinator
- INSARAG International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, 1998 Current US&R Medical Team Training Program – Instructor / Coordinator
- FEMA Urban Search & Rescue Response System, 2013 2018 Lead SME Medical Team Training Manual Re-Write Committee
- FEMA Urban Search & Rescue South Florida Task Force II, 1992 2010 (Emeritus) Task Force Medical Operations Chief
- Texas A & M University (TEEX) 2000 2014 Urban Search & Rescue Disaster Medical Program, Adjunct Faculty
- Nova Southeastern University, Davie, FL 2002 2011 Emergency Medicine Continuing Education, Adjunct Faculty
- Rescue Training Associates (RTA), 2001 2010 Disaster Medical Specialist Program US&R – Instructor / Coordinator
- Safety Solutions Inc., 2007 2010 Disaster Medical Specialist Program US&R - Instructor / Lead
- Palm Beach State College, FL 1999 2007 Emergency Medical Sciences EMT Program Lead
- Miami-Dade College, Miami, FL 1991 1997 Emergency Medical Sciences Lab Coordinator / Adjunct Faculty
- CPR/Medical Educators and Associates, 1994 1999 CEO / Director Medical Education and Training

Certificates & Professional Qualifications:

- State of Florida EMT-Paramedic (Active License)
- State of Florida Professional Fire Fighter (Retired)
- State of Florida Fire Service-Instructor II (Active)
- State of Florida Fire Apparatus Engineer
- State of Florida Fire Aerial Apparatus Engineer
- State of Florida Command Officer
- State of Florida Wild-Land Fire Fighter
- Department of Veterans Affairs Health and Medical Planning
- Critical Incident Stress Awareness and Management
- **Extended Critical Incident Stress Awareness and Management**
- National Fire Academy Human Diversity and Compassion
- Teaching Improvement Project Systems Classroom / Clinical Teaching Techniques. Miami Dade State College
- Fire Department Rescue Dive Team Leader

- Fire Department Technical Rescue Team Member
- National Registered Paramedic
- DHS/FEMA/Urban Search & Rescue South Florida Task Force Founding Member
- National Disaster Medical System (NDMS), Health Technician
- DHS/FEMA/US&R, Medical Specialist Program-Instructor
- DHS/FEMA/US&R Task Force Disaster Medical Specialist
- DHS/FEMA/US&R Task Force Disaster Rescue Specialist
- Department of Homeland Security Founding Member
- Urban Search and Rescue Rescue Technician Specialist
- Rope Rescue Operations and Technician Levels
- Tripod Operations and Hauling Systems Operations
- Vehicle and Machinery Extrication Operations and Technician Levels
- NUCA/OSHA Excavation Safety and Competent Person Operations
- Trench and Excavation Rescue Operations and *Technician* Levels
- Confined Space Awareness & Entry Operations Instructor
- Confined Space Rescue Operations and *Technician* Levels
- Structural Collapse Rescue Operations and Technician Levels
- Department of Veterans Affairs Collapsed Structure Medical Response
- DHS/FEMA/US&R, CBRN/WMD Enhanced Medical Program-Instructor
- DHS/FEMA/US&R CBRN/WMD Medical Specialist
- DHS/ODP/DOD Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings Performance Level
- DHS/FEMA/US&R Weapons of Mass Destruction Enhanced Operations
- DOJ/ODP Basic-Advanced Concepts for WMD Incidents
- DOJ/ODP Terrorism Awareness and Operations of Emergency Responders
- National Fire Academy Infection Control for Emergency Response Personnel
- National Fire Academy Initial Response and Operations to Hazardous Incidents
- National Fire Academy Hazardous Materials First Responder
- Hazardous Toxicology for the Emergency Medical Care Providers
- National Fire Academy Advanced Life Support for Hazardous Material Response (HazMat ALS)
- National Disaster Medical System/OEP Advanced Radiation Life Support (ARLS)
- University of Miami Medical Response to Hazardous Materials
- Survival Techniques and Rescue Operations (STAR) for Fire Fighters
- Fire-Rescue Intervention Team (RIT) Operations and Techniques
- Emergency Gas Fire Awareness and Operations
- CSX Rail Systems Emergency Response Operations
- Flash Over Fire Awareness and Operations
- Emergency Vehicle Operators Course (EVOC)
- Fire Service Apparatus Hydraulics Operations
- Fire Service Apparatus and Arial Operations
- National Fire Academy Fire Rescue Officers Training Program
- DHS/FEMA National Incident Management Systems 100, 200, 400, 700, 800
- DHS/FEMA/ Emergency Management Institute IS-00033.16 (FEMA Initial Ethics Course)
- DHS/FEMA/US&R Global Positioning System Awareness / USNG
- DHS/FEMA/US&R Swift Water Awareness and Operations
- DHS/FEMA/US&R Confined Space In-Service
- American Heart Association (AHA) Basic/Advanced Cardiac Life Support-Instructor
- National Association of EMT / Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support-Instructor
- AHA Regional Faculty Orientation and Update for CPR and ECC
- AHA Basic and Advanced Life Support Provider
- AHA Pediatric Advanced Life Support Provider
- AHA Acute Coronary Syndrome and Stroke (ACS) Provider
- The Advanced Difficult Airway Course for EMS

- Fire / EMS Educational Services Tactics & Strategies I and II (FFP 2420)
- Palm Beach Community College Fire Service Course Design (FFO 0150)
- Professional Divers International Corp. (PDIC) Rescue, Search and Recovery Diver
- Professional Divers International Corp. (PDIC) Dry Suite Rescue Diver
- Professional Divers International Corp. (PDIC)/NAUI Open Water Diver
- USUHS DOD Operational and Emergency Medical Skills Course (OEMS)
- K9 Down Emergency Medical Skills Provider and Trainer

Education:

- Fire Science Technologies, Miami-Dade College, 1988
 - Certified Florida State Fire Fighter
- Emergency Medical Service and Management, Miami-Dade College, Deans List, 1991
 - Certified Emergency Medical Technician Paramedic (current)
- Emergency Medical Sciences Certificate Program, University of Miami, 1994

Awards and Recognitions:

- Lifetime Achievement Award: DHS/FEMA/Urban Search and Rescue National Response System for Dedication and Leadership to the Medical Special Operations Community, May 2015
- Bravo Award Recognition: Palm Beach State College for Actions that go Beyond the Call of Duty, May 2006
- Award of Merit in Outstanding Achievement; City of Hialeah Mayoral Office for Outstand Service and Professionalism, Urban Search and Rescue, January 2006
- Conversations with Greatness "Pivotal People at Pivotal Moments"; U.S. Trust / Hon. Rudolph W. Giuliani, Memorable Event 9/11 Response Presentation, Jan. 2005
- Certificate of Recognition: Department of Homeland Security for Founding Member of the Department of Homeland Security, March 2003
- **Certificate of Merit**: Knights of Columbus Special Commendation for Assistance in the Rescue Efforts in New York and Washington D.C., Nov. 2001
- Commendation of Service: Hialeah Fire Department for Unwavering Dedication to Rendering Assistance while deployed with US&R to the WTC Attacks, 2001
- Letter of Recognition; State of Florida-Governor Jeb Bush for Heroic Service and Personal Sacrifices during Rescue Efforts Following Terrorist Attacks on Sept. 11
- Certificate of Recognition; Miami-Dade County Legislative Delegation for Courageous and Heroic Search and Rescue Efforts at "Ground Zero", Oct. 2001
- **Certificate of Appreciation**; Federal Emergency Management Agency for Commitment, Dedication and Spirit of Service, FEMA-DR-1391-NY, Sept. 2001
- Certificate of Appreciation; New York State Office of Emergency Management for Professionalism, Compassion and Courage in Support of the Events of Ground Zero, Sept. 2001
- **Commendation of Service**: Hialeah Fire Department for Professionalism While Off-Duty, Oct. 2000
- Firefighter of the Quarter; Miami-Dade County Chamber of Commerce for Distinguished Act of Courage, March 2000
- Commendation of Service; Hialeah Fire Department for Dive Rescue Save Operation, Feb. 2000
- Certificate of Appreciation; Brevard County Public Safety for Tremendous Dedication in the Line of Duty, Oct. 1999
- The State of Florida Distinguished Service Award; for Meritorious service to the citizens of Florida, Sept. 1998
- Award of Merit in Outstanding Achievement: City of Hialeah Mayoral Office for Unselfish Devotion to Mankind, Urban Search & Rescue, Oct. 1995

Professional Organizations:

- Department of Homeland Security Founding Member (DHS-FEMA)
- Federal Urban Search and Rescue National Response Plan (FEMA-US&R)
- International Urban Search and Rescue Alliance
- State Urban Search and Rescue (SUSAR) Alliance Strategic
- International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF)
- Florida Fire Chiefs Association
- Hialeah Association of Fire Fighters and Hialeah Fire Fighters Benevolent Association
- South Florida Council of Professional Fire Fighters
- Association of Christian Firefighters
- Medical Special Operations Community (MSOC) Board and Founding Member
- Center for Domestic Preparedness Alumni
- American Academy of Disaster Medicine
- Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT NDMS)
- Professionals in Emergency Management
- World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine (WADEM)
- National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians
- American Heart Association
- **Special Operations Medical Association**
- Professional Divers International Corporation
- Matlacha Pine Island Fire Control District, Board Member
- Kiwanis of Greater Pine Island, Board Member
- Pine Island Civic Association, Member
- Saint James City Civic Association, Member
- Legacies Alive and Operations Open Arms
- United States Military Academy at West Point Parents Alumni Association
- Gold Star Parents (2010)

Personal References:

Dr. Patricia G Cantwell, Chief, Division of Pediatric Critical Care Medicine Director, Pediatric Palliative Medicine, Medical Manager, US&R South Florida Task Force Office: (305)585-6051 / Mobile: 954-249-7346 / Email: pcantwel@med.miami.edu

Walter Lewis, Assistant Fire Chief City of Orlando Fire Rescue / FLUSAR Task Force Leader FLTF4 Office: 407-246-2132 / Mobile: 321-228.3087 / Email: walter.lewis@cityoforlando.net

Scott Dean, Assistant Fire Chief City of Miami Fire-Rescue / Special Operations Division Task Force Leader Florida Task Force II U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security Office: 305-569-4008 / Mobile: 786-256-5109 / Email: sdean@miamigov.com

Personal Information: Bilingual Spanish, married 42 years, 3 grown children (1 deceased US Army SGT), 5 grandchildren.