

Agriculture Business and Community Forum Agenda

UL-Lafayette LITE Center, 537 Cajundome Blvd., Lafayette, LA

Wednesday, January 25, 2017

7:30-8:00 a.m. Registration and Coffee

Welcome

8:00-8:10 a.m. Welcome and Introduction of Special Guests

- **Monique Boulet**, Chief Executive Officer, Acadiana Planning Commission
- **Lynda Lowe**, National Coordinator, Economic Recovery Support Function, U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration

8:10-8:30 a.m. Introduction to the National & State Disaster Recovery Frameworks

- **Wayne Rickard**, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Federal Disaster Recovery Coordinator

Declarations: DR-4263-LA (March Flooding) and DR-4277-LA (August Flooding)

Economic Recovery Support Function

8:30-11:30 a.m. **Agriculture**

USDA and University Panel Discussion

- **Lee Jones**, Assistant State Director, USDA Rural Development
- **Randal Fontenot**, District Director, Louisiana USDA Farm Service Agency State Office
- **Billy "Rogers" Leonard**, Assistant Vice President and Program Leader, LSU AgCenter

10:00-10:10 a.m. Break

10:10-11:00 a.m.	<p>Specialty Crops and Food Hubs Panel Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gary Perkins, Executive Director, Business Acceleration System, Central Louisiana Economic Development Alliance • Dr. Durga Poudel, Professor and Assistant Director, School of Geosciences University of Louisiana-Lafayette
11:00-11:30 a.m.	<p>Cultural Tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monique Boulet, CEO, Acadiana Planning Commission
11:30-11:45 a.m.	Lunch Served
11:45-1:15 p.m.	<p>Community Luncheon</p> <p>USDA Stronger Economies Together Program</p> <p>Louisiana Development Ready Communities Program</p> <p>Community Capacity and Long-Term Recovery Resilience Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lee Jones, Assistant State Director, USDA Rural Development • Pat Witty, Director - Small Business and Community Services, Louisiana Economic Development • Tonia Pence, National Disaster Recovery Support, Community Planning and Capacity Building RSF Field Coordinator, FEMA
1:15-5:00 p.m.	Business
1:15-3:00 p.m.	<p>Small Business Assistance Panel Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Ricks, State Director, U.S. Small Business Administration • Heidi Melancon, Director, Louisiana Small Business Development Center, University of Louisiana - Lafayette • Dr. Michael Dunaway, Director, National Incident Management Systems and Advanced Technologies Institute, University of Louisiana - Lafayette • Sherrie Mullins, Program Manager, Louisiana Procurement Technical Center
3:00-3:15 p.m.	Break
3:15-4:30 p.m.	State and Federal Contracting Opportunities