



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Emergency Management

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Counts
Dear Mr. Brown:

I'm writing to commend your employee, Dawn Brantley, for outstanding service and support; and thank you for allowing her to lend her expertise to our training efforts. As you know, we recently conducted a classroom version of the Red Cross course: Serving People with Functional and Access Needs in Shelters, at the Virginia Emergency Operations Center. We were unable to secure a legal representative through the Office of the Attorney General, and Dawn stepped in to provide that perspective.

Dawn's unique perspective as a former municipal emergency manager and current inclusive planner in one of the state's largest and most diverse areas gives her instant credibility with our audience. Her ability to precisely convey complex legal terms and concepts to a lay audience, especially in light of the recent New York court decisions concerning Superstorm Sandy, made her participation invaluable. Finally, her engaging and energetic presentation style contributed to overall session effectiveness and left the participants asking for more. Fortunately, we have worked with Dawn to also present a webinar covering some of the same information and much more in a few days. Dawn's subject matter expertise went a long way toward filling critical gaps in our shelter training—in particular, in addressing the sometimes challenging area of functional and access needs. Dawn is an asset to Hampton Roads, and to preparedness efforts in our state.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to both Dawn and to you for making it possible for her to support a state partner in this manner. We look forward to more collaboration in the future, and to assisting you in our shared mission at every opportunity.

Thank you,

Susan M. Mongold
Susan Mongold
Director, Office of Training and Exercises

"Working to Protect People, Property and Our Communities"