

**Building Performance Assessment Report**

# *Hurricane Georges...*



## **In The Gulf Coast**

*...Building on Success*

**Observations,  
Recommendations,  
and Technical Guidance**



Federal Emergency Management Agency  
**Mitigation Directorate**  
Washington, DC and  
Region IV, Atlanta, Georgia

## **The Building Performance Assessment Process**

In response to hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, and other disasters, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) often deploys Building Performance Assessment Teams (BPATs) to conduct field investigations at disaster sites. The members of a BPAT include representatives of public and private sector entities who are experts in specific technical fields such as structural and civil engineering, building design and construction, and building code development and enforcement. BPATs inspect disaster-induced damages incurred by residential and commercial buildings and other manmade structures; evaluate local design practices, construction methods and materials, building codes, and building inspection and code enforcement processes; and make recommendations regarding design, construction, and code issues. With the goal of reducing the damage caused by future disasters, the BPAT process is an important part of FEMA's hazard mitigation activities. For more information about the BPAT program or if you are interested in becoming a member, please visit our website at [www.fema.gov/mit/bpat](http://www.fema.gov/mit/bpat).

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## List of Acronyms

ASCE	American Society of Civil Engineers
A-Zone	Special Flood Hazard Areas, excluding V-Zones
BPAT	Building Performance Assessment Team
BFE	Base Flood Elevation
CCCL	Coastal Construction Control Line
cfs	cubic feet per second
DFCO-M	Deputy Federal Coordinating Officer - Mitigation
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FIA	Federal Insurance Administration
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FMAP	Flood Mitigation Assistance Program
HMGP	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development
msl	mean sea level
mph	miles per hour
NFIP	National Flood Insurance Program
NGVD	National Geodetic Vertical Datum
NOAA	National Atmospheric and Oceanic Administration
NWS	National Weather Service
SBA	Small Business Administration
SBC	Standard Building Code
SFHA	Special Flood Hazard Area
TPI	Truss Plate Institute
USGS	United States Geological Survey
V-Zones	Coastal High Hazard Zones