

Title: Accessible Housing: The Lynch-Pin to Disaster Recovery

Discussant: Curtis L. Decker, JD.

Session: Friday June 30, 11:15 – 12:15

This presentation examines the issue of accessible housing during and after a disaster. There will be an examination of FEMA and HUD programs that were available to evacuees and the lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities

Housing has been identified as the single largest barrier to this population in achieving recovery. Based on the experience in Katrina and Rita, the session will examine how to develop an all hazards approach to the housing issues.

The discussion will review activities currently underway to address the lack of accessible housing in the Gulf States by a variety of legal and social service agencies. We will examine the policies of the relevant federal agencies responsible for providing accessible housing under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Fair Housing Act.

Curtis L. Decker, JD
Executive Director
National Disability Rights Network
900 Second St. NE Suite 211
Washington, DC 20002