# Bryan County invites applications for the position of



# Emergency Management Agency Director



# **Bryan County Overview**

Nestled in the coastal plains of Southeast Georgia, Bryan County is a rapidly growing community that uniquely blends the charm of small-town living with the benefits of proximity to the vibrant city of Savannah. With a rich history dating back to the early 18th century, Bryan County boasts diverse landscapes, from its picturesque rivers and forests to its thriving commercial hubs. The County is home to a population of approximately 50,000 residents, spread across the northern and southern regions, including the cities of Richmond Hill and Pembroke. With a commitment to growth, safety, and the well-being of its residents, Bryan County offers an exceptional quality of life, making it an ideal place to live, work, and lead.

# Director Position Overview

The Bryan County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Director is a pivotal role responsible for safeguarding the community through comprehensive disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts. Reporting directly to the County Administrator, the EMA Director will develop, implement, and manage county-wide emergency management programs, ensuring coordinated efforts with local, state, and federal agencies. Key responsibilities include overseeing the development of emergency plans, managing disaster response operations, conducting training and exercises for first responders, and engaging with the community to enhance public awareness and preparedness. The EMA Director will also serve as the primary point of contact during emergencies, leading the County's efforts to protect life and property.



### **Essential Functions**

#### **Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Lead the development, implementation, and continuous improvement of the county's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and related protocols.
- Collaborate with city officials in the two major cities in Bryan
  County, Pembroke and Richmond Hill, to ensure the development
  of localized emergency plans tailored to the specific risks and
  needs of each city.
- Ensure that all emergency plans comply with state and federal regulations, including the Georgia Emergency Management Act and FEMA guidelines.
- Coordinate and lead county-wide response efforts during emergencies and disasters, including activating the Emergency Operations Center (EOC).
- Serve as the primary point of contact for local, state, and federal agencies during disaster events.
- Oversee the recovery process following a disaster, including damage assessment, resource allocation, and coordination with relief organizations.
- Develop and implement training programs for county and city staff, first responders, and community volunteers to enhance readiness and response capabilities.
- Plan and conduct regular emergency drills and exercises in collaboration with local governments, schools, businesses, and community organizations.
- Serve as the spokesperson for the EMA, providing timely and accurate information to the public, media, and other stakeholders during emergencies.
- Develop and distribute educational materials on disaster preparedness and safety to the community.
- Foster strong relationships with community leaders, organizations, and the public to build a culture of preparedness and resilience.
- Identify and secure funding opportunities, including grants, to support emergency management programs and initiatives.
- Manage the county's emergency management budget, ensuring efficient use of resources and compliance with financial regulations.
- Oversee the acquisition, maintenance, and deployment of emergency management equipment and supplies.



### **Essential Functions**

#### **Duties and Responsibilities Cont'd:**

- Work closely with local law enforcement, fire departments, EMS, public health, and other agencies to ensure coordinated response efforts.
- Participate in regional and state emergency management meetings and initiatives.
- Establish mutual aid agreements with neighboring jurisdictions to enhance response capabilities.
- Conduct risk assessments to identify potential hazards and vulnerabilities within the county and its cities.
- Develop and implement mitigation strategies to reduce the impact of identified risks on the community.
- Monitor and evaluate emerging threats and trends to ensure the county remains proactive in its emergency management efforts.

#### **FIRST YEARS GOALS**

#### **Localized Emergency Plan Development:**

 Ensure the development and approval of comprehensive, localized emergency plans for the cities of Pembroke and Richmond Hill, addressing their unique needs and potential disaster scenarios.

#### **Strengthening Collaboration:**

 Establish strong working relationships with city officials, emergency responders, and community leaders in Pembroke and Richmond Hill to foster a collaborative approach to emergency management.

#### **Community Engagement:**

 Launch a county-wide public awareness campaign to educate residents on disaster preparedness, focusing on specific risks relevant to Pembroke, Richmond Hill, and other areas of the county.

#### **Training and Capacity Building:**

 Implement a series of training sessions and exercises for county and city personnel to ensure readiness and improve coordination during emergencies.

### **The Ideal Candidate**

The ideal candidate for the Bryan County EMA Director position is a dynamic leader with a deep understanding of emergency management principles and a proven track record in disaster response and recovery. They should possess strong strategic thinking abilities, excellent communication skills, and the capacity to collaborate effectively with diverse stakeholders. Experience in local government or public safety is essential, along with a comprehensive knowledge of federal and state emergency management regulations. The ideal candidate will demonstrate a commitment to public service, a passion for community safety, and the ability to operate under pressure in high-stakes situations. They should also be adept at leveraging technology and data to enhance emergency preparedness and response capabilities.

## Minimum Qualifications

 Bachelor's degree in Emergency Management, Public Administration, or a related field (Master's degree preferred). Minimum of 5 years of experience in emergency management, public safety, or a related field, with at least 3 years in a leadership role. Any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for this position will be considered. Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) or equivalent certification preferred. Strong knowledge of federal, state, and local emergency management laws, regulations, and best practices. Proven experience in disaster response, recovery, and mitigation. Excellent leadership, communication, and organizational skills. Ability to work under pressure and make critical decisions in high-stress situations. Proficiency in emergency management software and tools. Must possess and maintain Driver's License.

 Must be available to work evenings, weekends, and holidays as required during emergency situations. Oncall 24/7 to respond to emergencies or disasters as needed. May require travel within and outside the county for meetings, training, and emergency response.



# Challenges and Opportunities



Bryan County presents a unique set of challenges and opportunities for the EMA Director. The County's location along the Atlantic coast makes it vulnerable to natural disasters, particularly hurricanes and flooding, requiring a leader with experience in coastal emergency management. The rapid growth and development in the area also pose challenges in terms of infrastructure resilience and resource allocation during emergencies. However, these challenges also present opportunities for the EMA Director to innovate and lead initiatives that enhance the County's preparedness and resilience. By fostering strong partnerships with regional, state, and federal agencies, as well as the local community, the EMA Director can play a critical role in shaping a safer, more resilient future for Bryan County.



#### **Compensation and Benefits**

Salary for this position will be established commensurate with experience and qualifications of the selected candidate.

Starting salary is expected to be in the range of \$80,000 - \$95,000.

Comprehensive benefits package including health, dental, life insurance, and retirement benefits.

Relocation expenses are negotiable.

#### **How to Apply**

Interested applicants must submit by email a cover letter, resume, at least five job-related references with phone numbers and email addresses, as well as salary history no later than close of business on November 7th to

Lisa Ward
Senior Associate
Mercer Group Associates
Iisaward912@gmail.com

Please direct any questions to Lisa Ward at 706-983-9326.

#### **Candidates**

The Mercer Group will begin the process of developing a short list of candidates for additional vetting after the closing of applications on November 7th.

Interviews will be conducted in early December.

Alan Reddish
Senior Associate
Mercer Group Associates
706-614-4961





