

Paul Rainwater
Executive Director

As executive director of the Louisiana Recovery Authority, Paul Rainwater serves as the governor's authorized representative to FEMA and the state's chief hurricane recovery advisor, providing direction and daily oversight of Louisiana's recovery from hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav and Ike.

Prior to his appointment in January 2008, Rainwater served as legislative director and chief of operations for U.S. Sen. Mary Landrieu, D-La. From 2006 to January 2007, Rainwater served as director of hazard mitigation and intergovernmental affairs at the LRA.

During Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Rainwater served as a critical first responder, managing the I-10 causeway evacuation for the first 36 hours. During Hurricane Rita a few weeks later, he served as joint operations manager for Calcasieu Parish.

From 2000 to 2006, Rainwater served as the chief administrative officer for the city of Lake Charles, managing 10 departments and serving as lead developer of a \$90 million budget, in addition to coordinating state and federal capital outlay requests.

Prior to his city governmental service, Rainwater served as manager of governmental affairs for Conoco, Inc., Gulf Coast Business Unit in Baton Rouge.

In addition to his public service duties, Rainwater also serves as a lieutenant colonel with the Louisiana Army National Guard in the Joint Director of Military Support for Disaster Response Unit.

Rainwater earned a bachelor's degree in government from McNeese State University in Lake Charles, a master's degree in international relations from Salve Regina University in Rhode Island, and is certified as a local government manager by Louisiana State University.