

# “Disaster Planning Beyond Hurricanes,” FLCAJ Magazine

July 28, 2020

By: Anna P. Cherubin



Florida associations are accustomed to preparing for hurricanes, but disaster plans should also account for other catastrophic events where there is often less advance warning, such as tornadoes or even activeshooter scenarios. Relying on outside crisis experts for guidance is crucial to ensure that your association is

prepared to handle an unexpected and dangerous situation, and boards and managers can work with law enforcement, the fire department, or security consultants to establish a plan specifically tailored to the characteristics of the buildings and even the demographics of the community. Regardless of the emergency, communication is key, and disaster plans should therefore regularly be distributed or posted on the website. The plan should include information regarding evacuation routes or procedures for sheltering in place; information on alarms and fire protection equipment; shutoff locations for water, gas, and electric utilities; and phone numbers of potential service providers and other professionals the residents might need in the event of a crisis.