

Jamie Rhome

Storm Surge Team Lead National Hurricane Center

Jamie Rhome is the Storm Surge Specialist and Team Lead at NOAA's National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami, Florida, and serves as a subject matter expert on storm surge and coastal inundation for the National Weather Service's hurricane program. He is also the NOAA representative for the tri-agency (NOAA, FEMA, Army Corp. of Engineers) National Hurricane Program (NHP). The NHP conducts Hurricane Evacuation Studies (HES) that guide the decision-making process for protecting the public when a hurricane threatens an area.

Mr. Rhome oversees the National Hurricane Center's Storm Surge Unit, which produces official storm surge forecasts during tropical cyclone threats to the United States, supports the Nation's hurricane warning program, and facilitates post-storm response and recovery efforts. During the offseason, he leads storm surge research and development activities at the NHC including updates to the storm surge modeling system, development of new products, and post-storm analysis and validation studies. Mr. Rhome also participates in the National Hurricane Center's outreach program by participating in hurricane preparedness activities, addressing government, industrial, and private groups, participating in discussions



and partaking in numerous radio and television media interviews. Finally, Mr. Rhome serves as a subject matter expert on a World Meteorological Team aimed at improving storm surge predictive capabilities within other Nations, especially within the Caribbean and Central America.

Mr. Rhome received both his Bachelor of Science degree and Master of Science degree in meteorology from North Carolina State University (1999, 2002). He joined the National Hurricane Center in 1999 as a marine forecaster in the Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch. He became a hurricane specialist in 2006 and was selected to lead the NHC's Storm Surge program in 2008. He was also selected for a temporary assignment to the White House's Office of Science and Technology Policy in 2008/2009 where he served as a scientific policy analyst within the Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama administrations. For his pioneering work in developing new storm surge forecast and warning systems, Rhome received the 2016 National Weather Service Isaac Cline award, the 2017 Department of Commerce (DOC) Gold Medal (the highest honorary award in the DOC), the 2019 NOAA Administrator's Award and the prestigious 2019 Service to America medal ("Sammie").



January 2020