



**NEWS RELEASE  
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**Florida Attorney General & Cabinet Commemorate 13th Annual Federal Alliance for Safe Homes - FLASH® Week to Promote Disaster Safety**

**(TALLAHASSEE, FL)** - Attorney General Bill McCollum, Governor Charlie Crist and the Florida Cabinet today declared the 13<sup>th</sup> annual [Federal Alliance for Safe Homes, Inc. - FLASH®](#) Week in recognition of the organization's legacy of award-winning consumer awareness and professional education programs. Founded in Florida, the national nonprofit develops and delivers programs to help families and homes become resilient to natural disasters, including earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, lightning, tornadoes, wildfires and more.

As part of the ceremony, FLASH President/CEO Leslie Chapman-Henderson highlighted how the alliance works with science and technology organizations like the [Community and Regional Resilience Institute](#) (CARRI), [Resilient Home Program](#) (RHP) and academic partners like the [University of Florida](#) (UF) Department of Civil and Coastal Engineering to help Florida communities become the foundation of a strong and resilient nation.

"Working with academic, science and technology partners like CARRI, RHP and UF allows us to swiftly transfer groundbreaking technology and information to families in Florida and throughout the nation who confront disaster," said Chapman-Henderson. "Finding new, more effective and affordable tools for resilience supports FLASH's mission to strengthen homes and safeguard families from disasters of all kinds," said Chapman-Henderson.

"The Resilient Home Program's ultimate goal is to make housing resilient to natural disasters, and we are delighted to partner with FLASH, CARRI, UF, and others who share our vision. Innovative yet affordable technologies and practices will be of significant value to residents of Florida as well as the entire Southeastern United States," said Professor David Tilotta, North Carolina State University and Resilient Home Program team member.

"FLASH has a strong track record of bringing hazard researchers, stakeholders and policymakers together to identify roadblocks and potential solutions to making new and existing homes more resilient to natural disasters," said Dr. Forrest Masters, Assistant Professor at UF.

(more)

The nonprofit Federal Alliance for Safe Homes, Inc. – FLASH® is a 501(c)3 collaboration of organizations dedicated to strengthening homes and safeguarding families from natural and manmade disaster. Based in Tallahassee, FLASH is the nation's fastest-growing disaster safety education organization with more than 100 partners including the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Florida Division of Emergency Management, The Home Depot, International Code Council, National Weather Service, Renaissance Reinsurance, Simpson Strong-Tie, State Farm, USAA and WeatherPredict Consulting, Inc. In 2008, FLASH opened the interactive weather experience; StormStruck: A Tale of Two Homes®. To learn more about FLASH and access their free consumer resources, visit [www.flash.org](http://www.flash.org) call (877) 221-SAFE (7233).

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