

## Biographical Sketch for Talbot Brooks



Talbot's undergraduate degree was awarded by the Rochester Institute of Technology and he conducted his graduate studies at Arizona State University. His emergency response career began in 1986 as a firefighter for Wareham (MA) Fire Department and he has since held numerous paid and volunteer positions within the emergency response domain. He was introduced to spatial technologies while researching the effects of global climate change on agronomic crops for the US Water Conservation Research Laboratory (USDA) in Phoenix, Arizona in 1993. He joined the faculty at Arizona State University's Department of Geography in 2000 before departing moving to a cooler climate in Mississippi in 2005. He is the current President of GITA, Director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Geospatial Information Technologies at Delta State University, provides volunteer GIS services for the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, and is the Chief Engineer for Bolivar County Volunteer Fire Department. Service activities include the National Geospatial Advisory Committee, the Mississippi Coordinating Council for Remote Sensing and GIS (Technical User's Group Chair), and the Board of Directors for the GIS Certification Institute.

### Awards and Recognition:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Best Press Copy, Atlas or Map Series, ESRI International User's Conference (2011)
- ESRI Special Achievement in GIS (With Yazoo-Mississippi Delta Levee District, 2011)
- Mississippi Legislature Joint Resolution providing commendation for service to community and profession (2010, House Concurrent Resolution No. 107)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Best Press Copy, Atlas or Map Series, ESRI International User's Conference (2010)
- Bolivar County Firefighter of the Year (2011)
- Best Speaker Award GITA Annual Conference 29 and 31 (2007, 2 awards in 2009)
- ESRI Special Achievement Award in GIS (2006)
- Named one of the industry's "Top 50 to Watch" by GPS World (May 2007)