

# Louisiana Emergency Management Conference

## 2020 LEMC Featured Speakers

### John Bel Edwards

Governor  
Louisiana



On January 11, 2016, Governor John Bel Edwards was sworn in as the 56<sup>th</sup> Governor of Louisiana. In 2019 he was reelected to a second term.

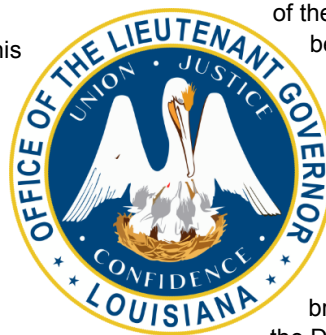
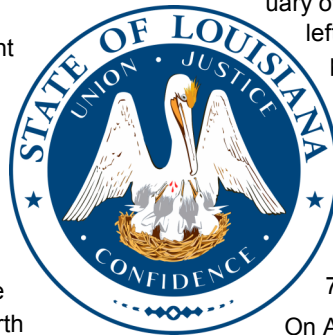
The governor grew up in Amite, Louisiana as one of eight children. With four Tangipahoa Parish Sheriffs in his lineage, he learned the importance of public service at an early age.

Governor Edwards graduated in 1988 from the United States Military Academy at West Point. The governor served eight years as an Airborne Ranger on active duty with the United States Army and commanded a rifle company in the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He went on to graduate Order of the Coif from Louisiana State

University Law Center and set up a civil law practice in his home town of Amite.

In 2008, he was elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives from District 72, where he served for eight years until the voters of Louisiana elected him governor in November 2015.

Governor Edwards and his wife, First Lady Donna Edwards, have three children: Samantha Bel, Sarah Ellen, and John Miller.



### Billy Nungesser

Lt. Governor  
Louisiana



Billy Nungesser is the 54<sup>th</sup> Lieutenant Governor of the state of Louisiana. He was elected in 2015 and began his first term in January of 2016. In 2019 he was reelected to a second term. Billy left a career as a successful businessman to begin his political career following Hurricane Katrina.

In 2005, Nungesser and his wife Cher rode out Hurricane Katrina at their ranch in southern Plaquemines Parish. In response to his own frustration over the slow response from government following Hurricane Katrina, Billy decided to run for Plaquemines Parish President in 2006. He was re-elected in 2010 with over 70% of the vote.

On April 20, 2010, Plaquemines Parish became Ground Zero for the nation's biggest environmental disaster. In the wake of the Deepwater Horizon oil rig explosion in the Gulf, Billy became the voice of Louisiana's frustration.

During the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, the New York Times named him the "hardest working man in Louisiana" and ABC named him Person of the Week during the same period. He continues to be the "hardest working man in Louisiana" to date on behalf of all of us.

Today Billy is second in command in the executive branch and Louisiana's ambassador as Commissioner of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism. From natural disasters to promoting our great state....Billy Nungesser is a man for all of Louisiana.

### LOUISIANA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

8550 United Plaza Boulevard • Suite 1001 • Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809

Toll free (877) 405-5372 • Telephone (225) 408-4757 • Fax (225) 408-4422 • email [info@laemc.org](mailto:info@laemc.org)

Web [laemc.org](http://laemc.org) • LEPA Fed Tax ID #: 72-1133968