



MEDIA ADVISORY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Interview Availability: Hurricane Resilience Expert to Share Preparation Advice and New Consumer Survey Findings Ahead of the 2026 Season

Tallahassee, FL – As the 2026 NOAA Hurricane Awareness Tour travels to communities across the country, the nonprofit [Federal Alliance for Safe Homes \(FLASH\)](https://www.flash.org)[®] is available to support your coverage with expert advice, consumer insights, and ready-to-use resources.

FLASH President/CEO Leslie Chapman-Henderson is available for on-site and virtual interviews covering topics including:

- Essential hurricane preparedness steps homeowners should take today
- Simple, affordable, and impactful ways to strengthen homes before storms
- New consumer survey findings on one of the most critical protection features - garage doors
- How building codes and practices can reduce storm damage and shorten recovery

Data

- **68.7%** of Americans are unaware that garage door failure can lead to major roof and wall damage, as well as progressive damage. *Note: **Up to 90%** of homes avoid this costly damage when garage doors remain intact.*
- NIST analysis and key academic studies validate the protection power of intact garage doors, even in **winds up to 135 mph** (Category 4 Hurricane/strong EF2 tornado).
- Most homeowners would consider wind-resistant doors—and many are willing to invest up to **\$750** for the upgrade. *Note: Leading garage door manufacturer Haas Door cites a cost differential of \$225 for a wind-resistant door upgrade. See the attached comparison graphic of a standard, wind load, and impact garage door.*

“Compelling weather and building performance data show that garage doors offer consumers an affordable and profoundly powerful protection option from the high winds of hurricanes and tornadoes,” said Leslie Chapman-Henderson. “We are committed to sharing information about this significant resilience advantage as part of our mission to safeguard families and strengthen homes in the path of dangerous storms.”

Visuals/Consumer Resources

- [Inspect2Protect.org](https://inspect2protect.org) – Look up local building codes, explore disaster risk, and identify retrofit options to strengthen homes
- [#HurricaneStrong](https://www.hurricanestrong.com) – A national consumer education campaign providing simple, actionable steps to help homeowners prepare, protect, and recover before, during, and after hurricanes
- Garage Door Flipbook – Digital art assets available upon request

What: NOAA Hurricane Awareness Tour (May 2026)

When: Multiple locations nationwide (Sarasota, FL; Mobile, AL; and Lake Charles, LA)

How: Media availability coordinated by request

Media Opportunities: Interviews, visuals, and expert commentary available on-site and virtually.

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