



Interview No.: OH 3.5

Title: Fred A. Crawford, Jr., MD, Interview by Brooke Fox, 1 July 2009

Interviewer: Fox, Brooke

Interviewee: Crawford, Fred A., Jr, 1942-

Date: 2009-07-01

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Subject (Topical):

Hurricane Hugo, 1989.

Medical University of South Carolina.

Medical University of South Carolina. Medical University Hospital.

Medical University of South Carolina. Department of Surgery.

Hurricane Hugo, 1989--Personal narratives.

Disaster response and recovery.

Subject (Names): Crawford, Fred A., Jr, 1942-

Subject (Genre): Oral histories.

Interviews.

Summary:

Dr. Fred A. Crawford, Jr., was chairman of the MUSC Department of Surgery in 1989. He begins his interview by describing the days leading up to Hugo's landfall and the difficult decisions made by the hospital administration concerning staff coverage and patient care. He describes the physical damage sustained by

the hospital building, including shattered windows, flooding, and power outages. In addition he describes the heroic efforts made by staff to keep patients safe, including hand ventilating those on respirators during power outages. Dr. Crawford discusses the aftermath of the storm and the hospital's efforts to return to full capacity, as well as its financial impact on the hospital. Additionally, Dr. Crawford recalls his own personal preparations and the impact the storm had on his family and home.

Collection: Waring Historical Library Oral History Collection

Contributing Institution: Waring Historical Library (MUSC)

Media Type: Oral Histories

Note: This interview is part of the "Hurricane Hugo Oral History Project" series. These interviews document the experiences of administrators, hospital personnel, and maintenance staff who worked on the MUSC campus during landfall of Hurricane Hugo, September 21-22, 1989. Eleven interviews were conducted between June and August 2009 in preparation for the development of a physical and online exhibit, "MUSC Remembers Hurricane Hugo." The online exhibit is available at <http://waring.library.musc.edu/exhibits/hurricanehugo/>.

Transcripts has been edited by the interviewee.

In cases where the audio and the transcript differ, the audio is provided for background use only.

See also: Collection # OH 3.1-3.11

Language: English

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Series Title: Hurricane Hugo Oral History Project, 2009

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