



## Biographies

### **Karen Kwasnowski, GISP**

#### **Officer**

*BS, Earth Science, University of Rochester, 1995*

Mrs. Kwasnowski has over 15 years experience as a senior GIS technologist with a broad range of LiDAR, remote sensing and geospatial project experience. She is co-founder of GroundPoint Technologies and currently oversees all of GroundPoint's technical production. She has successfully lead LiDAR and GIS projects for a range of government agencies at the County and State level, and for Federal Agencies such as the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Her specialties include quality control and accuracy assessment of LiDAR data and the development of terrain products for GIS integration.

Mrs. Kwasnowski's career began with the New York State Technology Enterprise Center (NYSTEC) as an incubator for high tech industries in New York, and continued as a senior technologist and project manager with the Institute for the Application of Geospatial Technology (IAGT), a non-profit institute dedicated to the transfer of geospatial technologies for public benefit. She is the recent past president of the Central NY Chapter of ASPRS, and is an active member of the NYS GIS Association.

### **Benjamin H. Houston, P.E., PMP, GISP**

#### **Officer**

*BS, Geological Engineering, Colorado School of Mines 1991*

*MS, Earth Science, North Carolina State University 1998*

Mr. Houston has over 20 years experience in topographic engineering and related engineering and mapping activities. He is co-founder of GroundPoint Technologies and currently leads business development and strategic planning.

Mr. Houston spent 12 years as an Army Officer, first as a Topographic Engineer and later as a Staff Officer, Public Health Engineer, and Special Operations Team Leader with the US Army Special Operations Command. He is a graduate of the US Army Combined Arms Services Staff School, the Defense Mapping Agency, and the JFK Special Warfare Center and School. Mr. Houston has held various positions as both an engineer and a GIS analyst with for-profit and non-profit consulting companies, and has held positions in various local government agencies at the County level including the Departments of Planning, Public Works, and Public Health. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of New York and has a broad background in public health engineering, utilities infrastructure, and storm water management. Mr. Houston specializes in raster based terrain analysis and GIS data integration.

He has been an active member of the NYS GIS Community, serving in various volunteer positions with both regional and State level committees, and is currently an active member of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS), and the American Water Resources Association (AWRA).