



Contact: Dawn Shiley  
IAEM Communications Manager

**IAEM Headquarters**  
201 Park Washington Court  
Falls Church, VA  
22046-4527 USA  
www.iaem.org  
703-538-3542

## News Release

### IAEM-USA Announces the 2021 IAEM-USA Student Ally of the Year Award

**Oct. 13, 2021 (Falls Church, Va.)** – The IAEM-USA Awards & Recognition Committee of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) is pleased to announce the winner of the IAEM-USA Student Ally of the Year. The award will be presented at the Monday Networking Luncheon and Awards Ceremony on Oct. 18, 2021, at the 69th IAEM Annual Conference & EMEX, in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The winner of the 2021 IAEM-USA Student Ally of the Year is Walter English, III, CEM.

Walter has been a major supporter of students this past year. He helped start a Student Engagement Task Force to increase student participation within their regions. He worked with other regional presidents and IAEM Headquarters staff to look at college chapters and how to increase participation and reach more students. He assigned a student liaison to his IAEM-USA Region 3 Board and has a student and a non-student liaison that have worked with all Region 3 students to help increase networking and growth within the profession.

During the IAEM-USA Region 3 Virtual Symposium, he scheduled a virtual networking event for students as well as a resume and interview session.

Lastly, as an adjunct instructor with American Public University, he has helped the EM and Fire Science Club learn more about IAEM and the emergency management profession. He has been a mentor to many who are working on their IAEM certification (CEM), as well.

Walter devotes time to make sure all students get the best out of IAEM membership and grow within the field.

The **Student Ally of the Year Award** is presented to an individual (IAEM member or nonmember) or organization that has assisted, promoted, or supported IAEM students in their activities in the field of emergency management/homeland security and higher education.

*IAEM-USA, the nation's largest emergency management professional association, is a non-profit professional organization representing more than 5,000 emergency management and homeland security professionals for local communities, state and federal disaster officials, private sector, non-governmental organizations, and others involved in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from all types of disasters including acts of terrorism. IAEM provides access to the largest network of emergency management experts who can provide advice and assistance; the Certified Emergency Manager program; annual scholarships; a comprehensive monthly newsletter; and more.*

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