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News Release

IAEM-USA Announces the 2022 Emergency Manager of the Year Award

Oct. 12, 2022 (Falls Church, Va.) – The IAEM-USA Awards & Recognition Committee of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) has selected Walter English, CEM for the IAEM-USA 2022 Emergency Manager of the Year Award. The award will be presented at the President’s Banquet and Awards Ceremony on Nov. 16 at the 70th IAEM Annual Conference & EMEX, in Savannah, Georgia.

Walter English, III, CEM Winner of the IAEM-USA Emergency Manager of the Year Award

Walter English, CEM, has been instrumental in refining how emergency management is perceived in the City of Fairfax. He worked to bring the division outside the realm of the fire department to make it a solid asset across all departments. He first did this by creating and starting an Emergency Management Advisory Council to increase stakeholder engagement. This council is made up of department heads and leaders across multiple disciplines and has brought great awareness to what emergency management does and how it affects the citizens of Fairfax.

English also has led efforts on increasing and enhancing school security with police and fire. The School Safety Task Force works to develop planning for multiple incidents and emergencies that could impact school activities and resources. He continued with his holistic approach by taking emergency management to the senior leadership of the city. Not only does he teach ICS 300 and 400 to both city management staff, but English also teaches the elected officials. He used WebEOC and Everbridge (a mass notification system) to create an alert notification to ensure these leadership groups are aware of major incidents and actions being taken to mitigate the response.

Additionally, English has been the lead on the IAEM student task force for the last two years. IAEM student chapter numbers have steadily increased and are continuing to soar. He not only recognizes that developing the next generation is what is going to keep this profession going but he is dedicated to this endeavor.

The Emergency Manager of the Year Award recognizes an emergency management practitioner for outstanding contributions to the field of emergency management.

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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