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News Release

IAEM-USA Announces the 2022 Rising Star Award Winner

Oct. 11, 2022 (Falls Church, Va.) – The IAEM-USA Awards & Recognition Committee of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) has selected Carol L. Lynn for the IAEM-USA 2022 Rising Star Award. The award will be presented at the Monday Networking Luncheon and Awards Ceremony on Nov. 14 at the 70th IAEM Annual Conference & EMEX, in Savannah, Georgia.

Carol L. Lynn Winner of the IAEM-USA Rising Star Award

Carol Lynn was hired in early 2021 as Humboldt County, Nevada's first full-time emergency manager. Prior to this, the county's emergency management duties were spread throughout the Sheriff's Offices. After reviewing the county's needs, it became evident that the county needed a dedicated manager. Ms. Lynn took on these responsibilities with enthusiasm and vitality, providing excellent ideas and the agility to update the county's emergency management operations. She was the perfect fit for those responsibilities and has since both personified and operationalized the value of her experience in the county.

Lynn's biggest contributions have been the ease at which the county transitioned from a diluted sheriff-office-based emergency management program to an independent and focused operational entity, reporting to the county manager. Noteworthy were her successes at "baselining" and reengineering the emergency management program in the county with a new "Comprehensive Emergency Management Planning Program." This has evolved into the revision and synchronization of all county plans – many that were over ten years old; including the publication of a new emergency operations plan and (first-time ever) continuity of operations plan, new preparedness and training initiatives, and supportable schedule, a stand-alone county emergency management budget, as well as a revitalized, survivable, and functional emergency operations center; all in just under a year.

The Rising Star Award recognizes someone new to the emergency management profession who has displayed enthusiasm, innovation, and commitment, has made significant contributions to the field, and has been working in the emergency management profession for five years or less.

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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