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News Release

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

Oct. 11, 2022 (Falls Church, Va.) – The IAEM-USA Awards & Recognition Committee of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) has selected Colonel Wellman as the IAEM-USA 2022 Emergency Management Volunteer of the Year. 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.

Colonel Jerry Wellman Winner of the IAEM-USA Volunteer Emergency Manager of the Year Award

During 2021, Colonel Wellman was active in enhancing his own emergency management professional development, while relentlessly contributing to his community. As a volunteer he completed both the Federal Emergency Management Agency/Emergency Management Institute's (FEMA/EMI) Basic and Advanced Emergency Management Academies and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Cyber Security and Infrastructure Agency's (CISA) Radio Operator and Communications Unit Leader Instructor certification programs, becoming a pro bono instructor for DHS/CISA.

After receiving these credentials, he was instrumental in setting up and teaching emergency management communications classes (again pro bono) in Arizona, Utah, and Colorado). He also served as a by-name requested member of the National DHS/CISA Auxiliary Communications Working Group, developing certification programs for radio communications teams. In addition to these efforts, Wellman served as both the chairperson of the Kearns (Utah) Metro Township Emergency Planning Commission and as an active responding member of the Utah State Emergency Response Team (SERT), serving many weeks in the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as a member of the Air Operations desk. In his later duties, he served in the EOC for over 150 days during the COVID-19 response and during many floods, fires, and winter storm EOC activations. Wellman also was active as an air operations coordinator on three missing-person search and rescue operations.

The Volunteer Emergency Manager of the Year Award is presented to an individual who served as an active volunteer in the field of emergency management for their exceptional emergency management services and contributions to the community throughout the prior year.

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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