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## News Release

### **IAEM-USA Announces the 2023 Volunteer Emergency Manager of the Year**

**Oct. 19, 2023 (Falls Church, Va.)** – The IAEM-USA Awards & Recognition Committee of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) has selected John May as the IAEM-USA 2023 Volunteer Emergency Manager of the Year. The award will be presented at the President’s Banquet and Awards Ceremony on Nov. 8 at the 71<sup>st</sup> IAEM Annual Conference & EMEX in Long Beach, California.

#### **John May 2023 Volunteer Emergency Manager of the Year**

Lieutenant Colonel May's contributions to the Civil Air Patrol (CAP), exceptional leadership, and tireless efforts during the 2022 hurricane season have significantly impacted disaster response and recovery.

Lieutenant Colonel May served as the Incident Commander for CAP during the responses to Hurricanes Ian, Fiona, and Nicole in Florida, totaling an unprecedented 12 weeks for each event. His commitment and long work hours were crucial in coordinating the efforts of over 700 CAP volunteers, multiple aircraft, ground search and rescue teams, communications teams, and more from various states.

He also led a 71-person FEMA-supported Geospatial Damage Assessment team, responsible for providing over 69,000 damage assessments. This team came from 28 states and even included CAP volunteer members from overseas. His leadership ensured the successful execution of this critical task.

Colonel May's efforts and leadership in CAP's preparedness, mitigation, and response initiatives earned recognition, including CAP's recognition as the number one emergency management agency within CAP for the year. He also received the U.S. Air Force Headquarters' first Air Force Commander's "Mission of the Year" Award.

Lieutenant Colonel May's leadership, dedication, and contributions have significantly enhanced CAP's emergency management and disaster response role, especially during the challenging 2022 hurricane

season. His efforts have undoubtedly saved lives and protected property in the face of adversity.

**The IAEM-USA Volunteer Emergency Manager of the Year Award** recognizes 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 5,800 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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