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News Release

Cathy Clark, MA, Sworn in as IAEM-USA President

Jan. 20, 2023 (Falls Church, Va.) – Cathy Clark, MA, has taken office as 2022-2023 president of the USA Council of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM-USA). She was sworn in at the President’s Banquet during the Annual Conference in Savannah, Georgia. Other officers sworn in were IAEM-USA First Vice President Justin Kates, CEM, IAEM-USA Second Vice President Carrie Speranza, CEM, and IAEM-USA Secretary Sarah L. Moore, CEM.

Upon taking office, Ms. Clark expressed that her vision as president is to continue to empower our individual members, to fully engage in their career aspirations, nurture strong professional relationships, and collectively promote the advancement of our profession of emergency management. “I am passionate about finding ways to start conversations, especially those hard conversations, we need to have to bring about meaningful, action-oriented, and lasting change,” stated Ms. Clark. “Diversity, equity, and inclusion are foundational to the success of our Association. I am committed to encouraging our members to share their diverse ideas, experiences, and passions so that together we can continue to expand IAEM’s strategic influence and professionalism.”

Ms. Clark is the deputy director and statewide interoperability coordinator at the Minnesota Department of Public Safety’s (MN-DPS) Division of Emergency Communication Networks (ECN). Prior to joining ECN in 2019, she led the Organizational Development Branch within the MN-DPS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM). Ms. Clark joined HSEM in 2008 from the Minnesota Department of Transportation where she was responsible to ensure the coordination of the agency’s emergency response plan and lead the evacuation traffic management project, in addition to serving as a public affairs coordinator.

Ms. Clark has served in a variety of positions in her 33 years of state service, including overseeing HSEM’s region field operations, the state’s emergency management training and exercise program, and Emergency Planning Community Right-to-Know program. Previously, she served as communications director and spokesperson at the Minnesota Department of Public Safety.

Ms. Clark formerly chaired the IAEM Training and Education Committee and has served as IAEM-USA’s second vice president and first vice president. She completed the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s National Executive Academy in 2017.

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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