

Andrew (Drew) Chandler, AEM®, is a candidate for IAEM-USA Region 4 President-Elect.

Drew is a local emergency manager with one foot planted firmly in Woodford County, Kentucky's program serving a rural population of 26,232. The other is propped in the doors of stakeholder organizations at all levels to help shape a better landscape for the Commonwealth's EM workforce and ultimately, its residents. His dedication to helping people began early after a traumatic event in his youth, beginning with enrollment in a fire cadet program near his hometown shortly after turning 16. He maintains multiple professional credentials in addition to our Association's AEM®.

Promoted to the EMA Director in 2015, he began service as a Deputy Director and volunteer in 2002 and became a full-time employee in 2021. Concurrently, he also served as Director of Data Systems at the Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services from 2014 to 2021 and as the Preparedness Branch IT/Communications Manager at the Kentucky Department for Public Health from 2006 to 2014. Before 2006, he worked in the private sector for a logistics and distribution firm. This work history has allowed him to be on the ground in the throes of disaster and provide support from the 'comfort' of an EOC on multiple occasions in both local and state roles.

An IAEM member since 2012, Drew is well-known among IAEM-USA Region 4 members. He regularly attends conferences as part of the Kentucky delegation and has actively participated in the Emerging Technologies Caucus. He was also an early supporter of the State EM Association Ad Hoc Committee formation. Drew aims to maintain the successful trajectory of the region by fostering open communication between members and leadership. He also views the addition of Louisville to the conference city rotation as an opportunity to cultivate more IAEM involvement from the northern portion of our region, particularly from Kentucky.

The perspective he will bring to Region 4 comes from two decades of appointed, elected, and volunteer experience. Notably, Drew has held multiple offices with the Kentucky Emergency Management Association, including President. He's also been a Governor's appointment to the Kentucky Wireless Interoperability Executive Committee and the Kentucky Emergency Response Commission overseeing LEPCs, chairing the Grants Committee of the latter. Drew is a proud co-founder of the Kentucky Emergency Services Conference, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that donates substantial funds for EM professional development.

He is married to Diana, an Information Technologist of 21 years at the University of Kentucky. They reside in Versailles, KY, and spend considerable time supporting their two daughters' musical arts endeavors at marching band competitions and in concert halls. Drew is a Past Master of Buford-Landmark Lodge #41 F.&A.M., a fountain pen enthusiast, and enjoys woodturning.

You're invited to connect on LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/mrdrewchandler/>) to ask questions or simply create a new contact for insider tips about distillery and horse farm tours. You may also connect via 'virtual office hours' on August 1 from 4:00-6:00 PM Eastern using Microsoft Teams at the link: <https://bit.ly/dc4iaemr4>.