

KEVIN KUGEL, CEM®, NEMAA, PCP, RI-AEM

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It would be my honor to continue to serve the New England emergency management community as the Massachusetts representative to the IAEM Region 1 Executive Board. I began my service on the IAEM Region 1 Executive Board in 2017 as the Rhode Island State Representative and I stepped down from that position in 2024 after changing jobs from one based in Rhode Island with CVS Health to one based in Massachusetts with Boston University. I am incredibly proud of the accomplishments of the Region 1 Board during my tenure. Our efforts to increase the return on investment in membership for our regional members became a model for the other regions to follow. Region 1 developed several programs adopted by other regions and/or adopted by Council USA including our written Memorandum of Agreement with our FEMA Region 1 counterparts designed to enhance both organizations' ability to deliver training and professional development to the emergency management professionals in our region.

I am a military veteran with over 30 years of proven experience in emergency management. In addition to my roles in CVS Health and Boston University, I have also previously served as the Director of the Providence Emergency Management Agency giving me experience in senior emergency management leadership roles in the military sector, the public sector, and the private sector. My volunteer roles inside the emergency management community further demonstrate my dedication to the profession. These roles include various volunteer leader positions in the veteran's-based disaster response non-profit Team Rubicon, Volunteer Partner to the Sr. Director for Service to the Armed Forces and International Services with the CT/RI Chapter of the American Red Cross, member of the FEMA Region 1 Advisory Council, and my ongoing service as the Vice President for the Rhode Island Association of Emergency Managers. I have been a member of the Providence, RI CERT since April 2014 and a member of the Seekonk, MA CERT since its founding last year. Additionally, I continue to serve as a You Are the Help Until Help Arrives and CERT instructor for both the Providence Emergency Management Agency and the Seekonk CERT program, helping develop the capabilities of the disaster volunteers in both Providence, RI and Bristol County, MA.

In addition to the usual collection of FEMA in-person and independent study courses I am a graduate of the National Emergency Management Advanced Academy and have earned the FEMA Professional Continuity Practitioner certification. I earned designation as a Certified Emergency Manager from IAEM and a Rhode Island-Advanced Emergency Manager from the Rhode Island Association of Emergency Managers in 2017 and continue to maintain both certifications. Ongoing education and training are critical to maintaining proficiency and relevance as an emergency manager so I take advantage of as many opportunities as I can to take courses, partake in training, and attend conferences.

It is my sincere desire to continue my service to the New England emergency management community and continue to advance the ongoing efforts of the IAEM Region 1 Executive Board by representing the state that I have lived in for the last 13 years. I hope you will allow me the chance to do so.