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## IAEM-USA Region 7 Monthly Update

Region 7 Members:

As of 5-13-2014 there are 4,683 paid IAEM members for 2013-2014, of which 3,895 are within the USA Council. Last year on 5-03-2013 there were 4,613 paid members in good standing of which 3,860 were within the USA Council.

As of week 14, 2,243 new Individual members have been sponsored as part of the IAEM-USA Operation Invite a Friend campaign. 82 of these new members are in Region 7! We have been able to accomplish this by all of you reaching out to prospective members and inviting them to become a member for free for 12 months. As a member-based organization, each one of us has a responsibility to grow the organization, to ensure that we are truly representative of our profession. Continue to tell your friends about this incredible opportunity, how to join, and be sure to give them this link: [JOIN NOW](#).

I want to take this opportunity to welcome new members to the International Association of Emergency Managers. Congratulations on joining the premier international organization of emergency management professionals. We advance the profession by promoting the principles of emergency management; to serve our members by providing information, networking and professional development opportunities. If there is anything we can do for you or answer for you about IAEM, please let us know!

I also want to thank everyone else for renewing your membership and continuing to invest in IAEM and be a valued member.

Below are activities to report within the region as well as with the national board of directors for IAEM-USA.

### IAEM-USA Region 7 Activities:

- **Outreach:**
  - Distributed information to all members on pertinent Emergency Management issues including webinar opportunities, Public Assistance, House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittee bill.
  - The IAEM Awards Program provides the best way for us to recognize outstanding programs and people who serve our profession. The IAEM has one comprehensive Awards Program now that includes all the facets of our Global membership and the activities they do. The call for entries for the 2014 awards competition was announced on April 1, 2014 and closed on May 30, 2014. Entrants will be notified of winners during the first week in July 2014. Awards will be announced at the IAEM Annual Conference November 14-19, 2014 in San Antonio, TX.

## IAEM-USA Activities:

I wanted to make sure all members are aware that the board agendas for future meetings and the minutes from previous meetings can be found at <http://www.iaem.com/page.cfm?p=council/usa/board-minutes&lvl=3>. Highlights from the May meeting include:

- 2014 Annual Conference – Registration is open for the IAEM-USA 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference November 14-19, Grand Hyatt, San Antonio <http://www.iaem.com/page.cfm?p=events/annual-conference>. This five-day training and education event provides many benefits to all levels of government, the private sector, and non-government agencies alike. The conference includes a multitude of topics across the emergency management spectrum, enhancing your knowledge, competency level and strengthening your network. IAEM accomplishes this by attracting relevant high-profile speakers to address current topics and practical solutions. In addition to this annual event, EMEX, IAEM's Emergency Management & Homeland Security Expo, draws a myriad of exhibitors who are the top suppliers to the fields of disaster preparedness and homeland security.
- CEM –IAEM created the certification program for emergency managers to raise and maintain professional standards; it is a program to certify achievements within the profession. Any emergency management professional who meets requirements is welcome to participate. To register for certification consideration, candidates must enroll online at [www.iaem.com](http://www.iaem.com) to receive an electronic copy of the application booklet at no charge. I strongly believe in the CEM credential and am available to consult by phone or e-mail with any member who has questions, concerns, or needs advice.
  - The online CEM/AEM/Lifetime application is scheduled to launch the first week in July.
  - The CEM working group met in April 2014. The group learned the basics of writing exam questions and began drafting new questions. The new exam should be finalized in June. At that time, the new study guide will be posted on the IAEM website and the new exam will be implemented in October 2014.
- Budget - During the annual working Board Retreat, the IAEM-USA Board faced some difficult decisions regarding how to service the IAEM-USA members when financial projections for 2014-15 showed a significant deficit. Their first goal was to keep membership dues at current levels and this was accomplished. To reach this goal, reductions had to be taken in other areas which included:
  - The presidential travel budget used to cover travel for the president or anyone traveling on behalf of IAEM to represent us at meetings, testify before Congress, and attend state and regional meetings to interact with members.
  - Our partner since 1984, Association & Society Management International, Inc. (ASMI), the company that manages IAEM's day-to-day operations, staffs the Committees and all activities, including the Annual Conference, agreed to no fee increase for the coming fiscal year.
  - Eliminate printing and mailing the *IAEM Bulletin*, to USA Individual, Affiliate and Life members, currently the only members receiving it in this format. It will be sent out electronically, as it is to all other councils, and as it has been to the USA Council as well in an expanded format.

I want to thank members who have responded to my request to become involved in IAEM. I want to still encourage all members to get involved in IAEM, by going to <http://www.iaem.com/page.cfm?p=groups/us-committees> to review the list of committees, caucus, and groups. Once you find one you are interested in, contact the chair and ask to join. The challenges we face, as a profession and as a nation, are simply too great for us NOT to be involved.

It is truly an honor being your Region 7 President and I want to “thank you” for your continued support. If you have any ideas, questions, or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Teri".

Teri Smith, CEM®