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NON-COMPETITIVE DIVISION

Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for Emergency Management

Professionals

This is a call to action to the emergency management community to join the conversation about a Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct.

A subcommittee of the FEMA Ethics Special Interest Group (SIG), which is comprised of emergency management practitioners, academics, and ethicists, has developed a draft Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for Emergency Management Professionals. The draft document that has been created is intended to be the starting point for discussion around the creation of a Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct that captures the intent, challenges, dimensions, and significance of emergency management practice. Such a code is a necessary step in emergency management's clear delineation of its essential role in managing a complex, diverse risk portfolio that protects lives, livelihoods, and quality of life. It is also a critical element in the field's efforts to be recognized as a profession with the hallmarks of monopoly, autonomy, and authority.

The draft document is now entering its most important stage, an extended period of review and comment by the whole of the emergency management community. During the review period (June 1 – December 31, 2021) members of the community are asked to examine the standards, supply their thoughts about each standard, and offer examples of when such a standard would be relevant in practice. After

the review period, all the comments will be aggregated and reviewed for the purposes of: 1. Informing changes or clarifications in the standards (to include the deletion of existing standards or addition of new standards); 2. Illustrating the application of the standards in practice to inform examples and case study resources; and, 3. Identifying common definitional framings for terminology used in the standards. Depending upon the extent of the changes the draft undergoes as a result of the emergency management community's comment, the document may be opened for a second (albeit, shorter) comment period.

Presentation Theme: This poster addresses ethics based on emergency management practice.

Collaborators, Advisor(s) and Department(s) that assisted with this research: I am representing the FEMA Ethics SIG (which is a group too large in size to include in its entirety). The SIG is comprised of practitioners, academics, and ethicists.

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