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News Release

IAEM-USA Announces the 2024 USC Civilian Emergency Manager of the Year

Oct. 22, 2024 (Falls Church, Va.) – The Awards & Recognition Committee of the U.S. Council of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM-USA) has selected Kenneth Jones as the IAEM-USA 2024 USC Civilian Emergency Manager of the Year. The award will be presented at the President’s Banquet and Awards Ceremony on Nov. 20 at the 72nd IAEM Annual Conference & EMEX in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Kenneth Jones, CEM 2024 USC Civilian Emergency Manager of the Year Recipient

Kenneth Jones is the 2024 IAEM-USA USC Civilian Emergency Manager of the Year based on the overwhelming documentation and recommendations detailing his accomplishments and impact on the South Carolina community. His technical competence, performance, and achievements were distinct and measurable.

Mr. Jones served as the lead for multiple local, state, and federal organization plan and policy developments, reviews, and rewrites, including serving on the lead CG Incident Management Handbook rewrite team, reviewing the Santee Cooper EM Plan, the Charleston County EM Plan, and South Carolina’s Threat & Hazard Identification Risk Assessment and EM Plans, while completely rewriting Sector Charleston’s COOP instruction, the Severe Weather Plan, the Mass Rescue Plan, and the Lowcountry Area Contingency Plan. Moreover, he methodically ensured that all reporting requirement timelines were met or exceeded.

Key factors in his selection include:

- Training and Collaboration: Demonstrated ability to train and collaborate effectively.
- External Engagements: Significant involvement in community and professional activities.
- Teaching and Resourcefulness: Notable for his teaching efforts and securing funding.
- Identifying and Mitigating Gaps: Proven ability to identify and address gaps efficiently.

Mr. Jones has displayed an uncanny ability to network with key local, state, and national government agencies and non-government organizations to meet mission demands. He personifies inventive and innovative leadership through multiple enterprise-impact initiatives.

The IAEM-USA USC Civilian Emergency Manager of the Year Award recognizes an individual serving in civil service or as a contractor supporting the U.S. Armed Forces who has consistently demonstrated significant contributions to the field of emergency management while continuously self-developing as an emergency manager.

IAEM-USA, the nation's largest emergency management professional association, is a non-profit organization representing more than 5,800 emergency management and homeland security professionals for local communities, state and federal disaster officials, the 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.