

My name is Dave Donnelly, and I am honored to present my candidacy for the International Association of Emergency Managers' Region 4 President-Elect position. My journey with the Association began in 2006, and since achieving certification in 2010, I have dedicated myself to the field of emergency management, continuously seeking ways to contribute and innovate. Notably, in 2022, I was instrumental in founding the Municipal Emergency Management Caucus, where I currently serve as chair. Additionally, my role in mentoring candidates for the Certified Emergency Manager® and my active participation on the Conference Committee have fortified my commitment to our profession.

My decision to run for President-Elect stems from a deep belief in the Association's pivotal role in advocating for emergency management at every governmental level and across all disciplines. As we navigate significant changes impacting our programs and the nation's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters, it is crucial for our Association to maintain a strong, influential presence. The inception of the Municipal Emergency Management Caucus was a step towards addressing the unique challenges faced by municipal programs, many of which rely heavily on general revenue. By creating this forum, we aimed to capture and analyze emergency management practices at the grassroots level. Our efforts have culminated in a FEMA-endorsed survey that will collect comprehensive data across city, county, state and tribal governments.

My qualifications for this position are rooted in a robust 30-year career as an Emergency Manager, spanning state, federal, and predominantly local levels. My extensive experience includes 19 years in Florida, where I led a county program for 13 years. Presently, I serve as the Emergency Management Director for the City of Savannah, a role I have held for eight years. I am an active member of the Emergency Management Association of Georgia (EMAG) and the Georgia Region J Healthcare Coalition. My credentials include the Georgia Advanced Certified Emergency Manager (GA-ACEM) and Certified Public Manager (CPM) certifications. Furthermore, I contribute to the State Incident Management Team as an All-Hazards Liaison Officer and completed FEMA's National Emergency Management Executive Academy in 2023.

My previous tenure as the Region 3 Governor in the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association (FEPA) and various roles within the State of Florida's Working Group on Domestic Preparedness have equipped me with invaluable insights and a network of dedicated professionals.

In conclusion, my diverse experiences and unwavering dedication to emergency management, position me as a strong candidate for President-Elect. I am committed to advancing our Association's mission, fostering collaboration, and ensuring that we remain at the forefront of advocating for effective emergency management policies. Together, we can navigate the evolving landscape of emergency management and drive meaningful progress for our communities and profession.

Thank you for considering my candidacy. I look forward to the opportunity to serve and contribute to our shared goals.

Dave Donnelly