



PRESIDENT’S REPORT

There is so much going on right now for our profession. The IAEM-USA Government Affairs Committee is doing a lot to support us (pg 2) . IAEM is offering help to members and non-members (pg 3). IAEM is issuing a *Call To Action* and how to be involved with what is happening on a local level. (pg 3).

***NOTE: Shir!! Your picture is on page 3!!*

*Valerie Lucus-McEwen, CEM, CBCP
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What dismantling FEMA will really mean when the next disaster strikes

Rolling Stone 2/24/25

FEMA workers and disaster survivors open up about Donald Trump's call for "fundamentally reforming or overhauling FEMA or maybe getting rid of FEMA." (*IAEM President Carrie Speranza was interviewed for this story*)

Advisory board spotlight: Interview with Sadie Martinez

Domestic Preparedness Domestic Preparedness Journal 2/19/25

Advisor Sadie Martinez is the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management's access and functional needs coordinator.



REGIONAL CALENDAR (2025)

- [IAEM Virtual Conference](#) - May 9
- [UEMA](#) May19-20, Saint George, UT
- [SDEMA](#) Sioux Falls, SD
- [NDEMA](#) Sept 8-10, Bismark, ND
- [MEMA](#) Oct 8-9, Lewistown, MT
- [WAHA](#) March 26, Cheyenne
- [SDEMA](#) March 26,
- [IAEM](#) 11/14-20, Louisville, KY

Support the IAEM Scholarship Program — Bid in the current auction by Feb. 28

The [IAEM Scholarship Program Smalls Auction](#) offers fun while you help students until Feb. 28, 2025. The auction showcases many desirable challenge coins, including the #SMEM coin, the DHHS coronavirus response coin, the Disney salute to public safety coin, the NASA Mickey Mouse coin, and 28 others. Patches from local, federal, and college programs, jewelry, and even some Texas collectibles are up for bid.



REMINDER, you can see all the newsletters, notes and minutes on the [IAEM R8 website](#)

News and Information from around IAEM-USA Region 8

News from North Dakota

There are still openings in next week's [L0101 Foundations of Emergency Management](#) located here in Bismarck March 3-7, 2025 at the Bismarck/Burleigh EOC. If you are still needing this class to finish your FEMA Basic Academy courses this is a great opportunity to do so. A reminder that Basic Academy is part of Level II Certification.

Come Learn with the Colorado Access and Functional Needs Program

CMIST Response Team:

Emergency Response Interpreter

This training is designed for American Sign Language (ASL) and other language interpreters who will work with (PIOs), s (JIS), and (JICs). **Virtual-Zoom Platform** May 14, 2025 | 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. [View the Course Flyer](#)



G197: Integrating Access and Functional Needs into Emergency Management

This course provides emergency management stakeholders (e.g., emergency managers, emergency support functions, partners, community members, others) with a comprehensive overview of disaster and emergency management planning,



preparedness, response, and recovery using the CMIST Resource Memory Tool to support people with access and functional needs. **Please [visit our AFN Training Resources webpage](#) for additional information about available training.**

Colorado Access and Functional Needs Conference

We are also excited to let you know that spots are filling up fast for the [2025 AFN Conference at Great Wolf Lodge in Colorado Springs](#). Registration is open for everyone until **Tuesday, April 1, 2025**

From Doug Dodge, President MEMA

This is an important article regarding [evacuation notification lessons learned from recent California wildfires](#). I encourage you to share this with those responsible for issuing emergency notifications in your jurisdiction (if that isn't you).

From Carolyn Hackerott (ND)

[Emergency Management Higher Education Colloquium](#) "Strengthening Emergency Management Education for the future" June 3-4, 2025. This is a virtual gathering for faculty, staff, and administrators in EM and HS programs to discuss curriculum, research, and best practices. This [colloquium](#) is free and 100% virtual.

From Garry Martinez (CO):

I am excited to share that the CU Anschutz University Police Department is hiring an Emergency Management Program Manager! The hiring range for this position is \$80K - \$100K depending upon experience. The [position](#) is now open and closes on 3/11/25

IAEM-USA Government Affairs News

Thad Hughly, IAEM

The FEMA Review Council created by Executive Order on January 24 has been posted in the [Federal Register](#). To my knowledge, no one has yet been officially named to the Council. More on this to come as more details become available

The "AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act" ([S.315/H.R. 979](#)) has been reintroduced in both the House and Senate

Here's some good news...the management cost bill has officially been re-introduced in the House by Congressman Neguse (D-CO). The new bill number is [HR 744](#). I expect the companion bill in the Senate to be re-introduced soon.



[Subscribe to the IAEM Dispatch](#)

[Emergency management has evolved: Why the all-hazards era is over](#)

[How abolishing FEMA could create a crisis for states and cities](#)

[Trump administration fires over 400 DHS employees as mass firings continue](#)

[New lab studies how cities can survive extreme climates](#)

[DJI will no longer stop drones from flying over airports, wildfires, and the White House](#)

[What the firings at FEMA could mean for the next hurricane or wildfire](#)

[Leadership in L.A. facing backlash over accountability after devastating wildfires](#)



During the 2025 CEMA Conference, me and the Official Conference Mom, Shirl Garcia.



IAEM Issues A Call To Action



What IAEM is Doing

IAEM staff and member groups are actively advocating for the transition of disaster management responsibilities to be structured, sustainable, and not compromise community safety. Our priorities include:

- ✓ Engaging with policymakers to slow the pace of change and facilitate meaningful conversations about the long-term impact of these shifts.
- ✓ Requesting an IAEM presence on the newly established FEMA Review Council to advise on changes.
- ✓ Advocating for state and local solutions to help bridge gaps in capability as federal funding sources change.

What You Can Do

[Advocacy Resource Center](#): This site will serve as a one-stop shop for members engaging in advocacy, including legislative talking points and sample letters to lawmakers.

IAEM Provides Assistance To Member And Non-Member Emergency Managers

- IAEM understands that emergency managers need the association and its resources the most during times of crisis. Visit the [IAEM Resource Center](#):
- Post your resume and browse the job listing in the [IAEM Career Center](#) at no charge.
- Federal EM employees impacted by the cutbacks can receive a one-year complimentary membership to IAEM.
- Current IAEM members may receive an additional 90 day grace period for dues.
- Federal emergency management personnel laid off may register for the [IAEM Plugged-In Virtual Conference](#) on May 9 for free.
- Access this year's [IAEM Bulletin newsletters](#) regardless of membership status.