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## News Release

### **Pamela L'Heureux, CEM, Takes Office as IAEM-USA President, International Association of Emergency Managers**

**Nov. 4, 2009 (Orlando, Fla.)** – Pamela L'Heureux, CEM, Director of Emergency Management, Town of Waterboro, Maine, has taken office as President of the USA Council of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM). Outgoing IAEM-USA President Russ Decker, CEM, passed the gavel to L'Heureux during the IAEM-USA Presidential Banquet, at the IAEM 57th Annual Conference & EMEX 2009, currently taking place at the Rosen Centre Hotel and the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando.

"I hope to see a significant increase in Emergency Management Performance Grants next year for local emergency managers," said L'Heureux. "As President, I want to encourage IAEM-USA members to promote the association and to become active in emergency management-related committees and partner organizations. Last but not least, I want to promote the teaching of self-preparedness in U.S. communities nationwide." Her previous IAEM leadership roles have included serving as Communications Director for the IAEM-Global Board of Directors, First Vice President of IAEM-USA, and several terms as IAEM-USA Region 1 President.

Pamela L'Heureux has been active in emergency management since assuming the position of the Town of Waterboro (Maine) Director of Emergency Management in 1991. She has been a volunteer for the York County (Maine) Emergency Management Agency since 1994. When she retired from Verizon Communications in 2002 after 30 years service, the last 15 in a management role, L'Heureux took on the role of Assistant Emergency Management Director at York County Emergency Management Agency, where she is involved as an emergency management planner, exercise coordinator, and instructor for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) courses. She has been a long-term recovery specialist for FEMA and has responded to more than 20 disasters.

Pamela L'Heureux is married to husband, Paul, and has two grown children and two grandchildren. Always civic-minded, she has served as VFW Auxiliary #7997's President, and is a 21-year veteran volunteer fire fighter in her fifth term as Board member of the York County Fire Fighters Association. She is an Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) assessor, and has participated in 10 assessments. She is the first President of the Maine Association of Local Emergency Managers. She currently serves as a member of the United Nation's Advisory Board on International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR).

*IAEM-USA is the United States' largest association of emergency management professionals, with more than 4,500 members, including emergency managers at the state and local government levels, tribal nations, the military, colleges and universities, private business and the nonprofit sector. Most of IAEM-USA's members are city and county emergency managers who perform the crucial function of coordinating and integrating efforts at the local level to prepare for, mitigate the effects of, respond to, and recover from all types of disasters including terrorist attacks. Membership includes emergency managers from large urban areas as well as rural areas. IAEM-USA 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. The 2010 IAEM Annual Conference & EMEX Expo is scheduled for Oct. 30-Nov. 4, 2010, in San Antonio, Texas. Visit [www.iaem.com](http://www.iaem.com) to learn more about the work of the International Association of Emergency Managers.*

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