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## News Release

### International Association of Emergency Managers Statement on the Indictment of Flint Emergency Managers

**Dec. 21, 2016 (Falls Church, Virginia)** – In light of the recent news surrounding the indictments in the Flint, Michigan, water case, the members of the U.S. Council of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM), the premier international professional association representing more than 5,000 professional emergency managers worldwide, including more than 4,200 in the United States, believe there is confusion and misunderstanding of the use of the term "emergency manager" by the press, state government, and public related to the Flint, Michigan, water situation.

IAEM recognizes the importance of traditional emergency managers throughout the United States who focus on preparing for, responding to, and recovering from disasters or crisis situations. The term "emergency manager" has been used nationwide for more than 40 years to describe those professionals who are in the business of saving lives, protecting property, and restoring communities. Emergency managers performing these duties are found not only in local communities, but also in universities, healthcare, non-profits, military, private sector and other government entities.

In Flint, Michigan, the title "emergency manager" does not refer to the same duties as those of the traditional emergency manager. In the context of the Flint situation, emergency managers are actually municipal "emergency **financial** managers" (EFMs), established by the Michigan legislature in Public Act 101 of 1988, and appointed by the governor to oversee the jurisdictions in Michigan that are threatened with financial insolvency.

*IAEM-USA, the nation's largest emergency management professional association, is a non-profit professional organization representing more than 4,200 emergency management and homeland security professionals for local communities, state and federal disaster officials, 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.*

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