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News Release

IAEM-USA Awards 2016 Clayton R. Christopher Memorial Award to James Redick, MPA, CEM, Director of Emergency Preparedness, City of Norfolk (Virginia)

Oct. 28, 2016 (Falls Church, Va.) – The USA Council of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM-USA) presented the IAEM-USA 2016 Clayton R. Christopher Memorial Award to James Redick, MPA, CEM, director of the City of Norfolk (Virginia) Emergency Preparedness. The award was announced during the IAEM 64th Annual Conference & EMEX 2016 held recently in Savannah, Georgia.

A long-time member of IAEM, Mr. Redick holds the IAEM Certified Emergency Manager (CEM®) professional credential. He has had an exemplary career in the emergency management field, serving as director of the City of Norfolk's Emergency Preparedness and Response for the past five years, where he is tasked with the unique challenge of overseeing both the 911 Communications Center and emergency management. Prior to his work in Norfolk, Mr. Redick served as emergency planner for the City of Virginia Beach (Virginia), and deputy coordinator of Hampton (Virginia) Office of Emergency Management.

As director of emergency preparedness for the City of Norfolk, he created and chairs "Team Norfolk Emergency Operations" – a group of community partners spanning public, private, nonprofit, higher education and military. The focus of the partnership is on unity of effort in mitigation and prevention, preparedness, response and recovery, while developing a document to address all hazards: the *Team Norfolk Emergency Operations & Resilience Framework*. It has become every agency's plan – to which all stakeholders develop their standard operating procedures in alignment. The *Team Norfolk* concept has been considered a "best practice" by the State and the Rockefeller Resilience effort.

Borrowing a concept developed in New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina, Mr. Redick established *Operation Brother's Keeper in Norfolk*, where partnerships are developed directly with the faith community. As a member of the Secure Commonwealth Panel, he led an effort at the state level to develop recommendations among numerous agencies and nonprofits on how Virginia can adapt to recurrent flooding and sea level rise. He actively participates in the Virginia Tidewater Consortium for Higher Education's Security and Emergency Preparedness Committee. On the academic side, he is working with Old Dominion University to develop a new emergency management certificate program, along with representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Virginia Department of Emergency Management Training Division, the Joint Forces Staff College in Norfolk, and the Naval Post Graduate School's Center of Homeland Defense and Security.

Mr. Redick created and coordinates two major annual preparedness events in Norfolk, *Preparedness Night* with the Norfolk Tides ball club and a *Preparedness Fair* specific to the resources, which make up *Team Norfolk*. In an effort to keep the community informed throughout an incident, he implemented the idea of providing brief and accessible EOC video briefings to the community online using YouTube. He now has *Team Norfolk Talks* in the works, built around the concept of TED Talks, to provide video presentations to the community explaining such issues and topics as what goes on behind the scenes when people call 911, how to access information throughout an incident, power

restoration after an incident, and more. The intent is to explain the complexities of an incident, instilling a better understanding and realistic expectations.

About the Clayton R. Christopher Memorial Award

The Clayton R. Christopher Memorial Award was established by IAEM-USA Region 4 in honor of Clayton R. Christopher, who served as Director of Clayton County (Georgia) Civil Defense from June 1962 until his death on Oct. 29, 1976, while on business travel. Mr. Christopher was unselfishly dedicated to the emergency management profession and IAEM. His principles of integrity and leadership have served as a guiding force to the institution of emergency management, forming a strong foundation for its future. The award is presented annually to a local emergency management director/coordinator (city, county, tribal), who is a current IAEM-USA member, in recognition of contributions to the profession of emergency management.

About the IAEM-USA Council Awards Competition

Learn about the IAEM-USA Council Awards Competition at www.iaem.com/Awards, where information about all IAEM awards is posted.

About IAEM-USA

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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