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News Release

Robie Robinson, CEM, Executive Director of Public Safety, The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Sworn in as IAEM-USA President

Dec. 15, 2015 (Falls Church, Va.) – Robie Robinson, CEM, executive director of public safety for The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, has taken office as 2015-2016 president of the USA Council of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM-USA). He was sworn in at the Annual Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. Also sworn in were IAEM-USA First Vice President Lanita A. Lloyd, CEM, and IAEM-USA Second Vice President Nick Crossley, CEM, CPM.

Upon taking office, Robinson, expressed excitement to be working with the incredibly wide-array of emergency managers who comprise the IAEM-USA membership. “Looking inside the organization, it isn’t easy to grasp the breadth of expertise and responsibilities of our membership,” stated Robinson. “I am amazed at the experience represented by IAEM-USA members, as demonstrated by the Board representing our membership from every region of the country; the committees and caucuses on varied issues, interest, and backgrounds; the roles our members fill in their lives and careers; and the multitude of appointed representatives IAEM-USA provides to other associations, professional organizations, committees, and work groups.

“Looking outside the organization, I also am eager to work with many government representatives, organizations, agencies, private businesses, non-profits, and citizens, which are so critical to the success of emergency management programs everywhere,” said Robinson. “The responsibility before me in the coming year could be intimidating, but with the commitment of our leadership team, the support of the staff experts, and the continued participation of our membership, I am looking forward to a very busy and productive year:”

During his career, Robinson has served as the emergency manager for three Texas counties, including Fisher, Tarrant, and Dallas. These counties span the spectrum from a rural, small population to the ninth largest county in the nation. He has extensive experience with higher education institutions as well. He served as the emergency management director for Tarrant County College, which includes five campuses serving 60,000 students. In his current position with The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, he is responsible for all aspects of the campus police department, campus and workplace safety, risk management, environmental compliance, and emergency management for a thriving metropolitan university. Robinson also spent several years as an assistant professor in the Emergency Administration and Planning Program at the University of North Texas and worked as a regional fire coordinator for the Texas Forest Service.

Robinson is a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM®) through the International Association of Emergency Managers. He has been a commissioner for the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) since 2010, also serving chair of the EMAP Technical Committee. He will become the chair of the EMAP Commission in January 2016. He served two terms as IAEM-USA Region 6 President and chaired the IAEM-USA Membership and Marketing Committee.

Robinson completed a B.A. in history from Texas A&M University and a J.D. from Oklahoma City University. He also completed the Ranch Management Program at Texas Christian University and the Executive Leadership Program at the Center for Homeland Defense and Security at the Naval Postgraduate School.

IAEM-USA, the nation's largest emergency management professional association, is a non-profit professional organization representing more than 8,000 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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