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News Release

IAEM-USA Special Needs Caucus Recognizes 20th Anniversary of Americans with Disabilities Act

July 23, 2010 (Falls Church, Va.) – The members of the Special Needs Caucus of the United States Council of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM-USA) recognize the importance of the 20th anniversary on July 26, 2010, of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The ADA is a broad-reaching piece of civil rights legislation purposed to equally involve all people with disabilities in our society without discrimination.

“Caucus members recognize our commitment to this mission as we continue to promote all-inclusive emergency management within our profession,” stated Caucus Chair Elizabeth Davis. “Through ongoing education and outreach efforts, the Caucus has increased awareness and application of inclusive principles for all emergency management professionals. We thank the IAEM executive leadership for their unwavering support of our Caucus and extend a thank you to all our colleagues in the United States and around the world who include all persons in their efforts to save lives.”

The ADA National Network offers information, guidance and training on the Americans with Disabilities Act. Their 20th anniversary celebration includes the *2010 by 2010 Campaign*, with a goal to collect 2,010 proclamations of recommitment to the mission of the ADA by year end. For information on the ADA and the anniversary, visit www.adaanniversary.org. For current information about the IAEM-USA Special Needs Caucus and its activities, see www.iaem.com/Committees/SpecialNeeds.

IAEM-USA, the nation's largest association of emergency management professionals, is a non-profit professional organization with almost 5,000 members including emergency managers and homeland security professionals at the state and local government levels, tribal nations, the military, colleges and universities, private business and the nonprofit sector. Most of our members are city and county emergency managers who perform the crucial function of coordinating and integrating the efforts at the local level to prepare for, mitigate the effects of, respond to, and recover from all types of disasters including terrorist attacks. Our membership includes emergency managers from large urban areas as well as rural areas. 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. See www.iaem.com.

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