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Department of Emergency Services Personnel Receive Credentials

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(Forest Hill, MD) - - Director Edward Hopkins of the Harford County Department of Emergency Services has announced that two DES members have obtained national and state credentials in emergency management. Personnel receiving credentialing are Deputy Director and Emergency Manager Richard A. Ayers, Sr., and Homeland Security Planner Brian Bauer.

Deputy Director Richard A. Ayers, Sr., was recently approved by the North American Application Review Commission to receive the Certified Emergency Manger (CEM) credential. The Certified Emergency Management designation is the highest honor of professional achievement available from the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM), whose membership includes more than 9,000 emergency managers.

The North American Application Review Commission approved applicants who successfully completed an extensive credentialing package to include a management essay and written examination. To maintain CEM credentials, recipients must submit additional training and contributions to the profession every five years.

Ayers, recently celebrated 30 years of service with Harford County Government has served as Harford County Emergency Manager since the fall of 2006.

Brian Bauer was recently recognized by the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and presented the Maryland Preparedness Planning Certificate for completion of the Maryland Preparedness Planning Certificate Program.

The program is designed to strengthen the planning capability under the Maryland Emergency Preparedness Program., providing emergency management professionals with the skills and knowledge necessary to conduct effective planning. The recently developed program will serve as the State of Maryland's credentialing program for all planners.

Bauer, a five-year member of the Harford County Department of Emergency Services, Emergency Preparedness Branch, is the first person to complete the program to receive state credentialing.

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Commenting on the recent credentialing received by the Department of Emergency Services staff, Director Hopkins said, "We are proud of the professional accomplishments of both Emergency Manager Rick Ayers, and Homeland Security Planner Brian Bauer. These individuals exemplify the dedication, commitment and excellence in service provided by all our personnel and I congratulate them of their achievements".

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Mission of the Department of Emergency Services

The Department of Emergency Services will provide timely, professional and compassionate emergency and support services for both citizens and public safety providers – all day, every day. Our services will be delivered in a manner that is proficient and reflects our commitment to public safety excellence in Harford County.

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