



Media Release

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Robert Fletcher Receives Distinguished Service Award

Washington D.C.—During the National Emergency Managers Association (NEMA) 2012 Mid-Year Emergency Management Policy and Leadership Forum, the EMAP Commission presented the Eric L. Tolbert Distinguished Service Award to Mr. Robert P. Fletcher, Jr., President, Readiness Consulting.

The Eric L. Tolbert Distinguished Service Award acknowledges the commitment and diligence mirrored by one of EMAP's founding architects, the late Mr. Eric Tolbert, who demonstrated exemplary service and dedication to the program as well as emergency management. Mr. Fletcher exudes that same dedication throughout his entire professional career of 41 years.

Mr. Fletcher is a true advocate for EMAP. He has been a significant contributor to the EMAP mission since its inception. As one of the original contributors, he assisted in formulating the basic philosophy of EMAP. In 2007, Mr. Fletcher facilitated the EMAP Task Force that led to recommendations for updating the EMAP Strategic Plan, creating a business plan and adopting cross walks with the Target Capability List, National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP) and the National Plans Review. In addition, he has trained more than 300 EMAP Assessors over the years; ensuring future emergency managers understood and embraced the standard. Mr. Fletcher has fostered excellence and accountability in emergency management through his devotion to EMAP.

"Mr. Fletcher has dedicated his career to two things: improving readiness at all levels of government and helping to develop standards of practice for our profession. . .Mr. Fletcher's career and all of his accomplishments embody the spirit of EMAP," LTC Jerome Hatfield, Deputy Superintendent of Homeland Security, New Jersey Office of Emergency Management and Chair, EMAP Commission.

Mr. Fletcher's extensive resume involving emergency operations experience dates to the Hurricane Camille field response operations in 1969 and continues today as a consultant to all levels of government and the private sector. He has upheld titles as Director of FEMA Federal Division, Director of FEMA State and Local Preparedness Division, Chief of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Emergency Management Program, and currently, President of Readiness Consulting. Mr. Fletcher has managed national preparedness and response programs and has extensive hands-on experience in all facets of civil and military contingency planning.

Mr. Fletcher's service and membership within groups that captivate a body of standards that excels emergency management to the highest level has inspired his expert advice and counsel in evaluating emergency management programs. In addition to his EMAP contributions, Mr. Fletcher served as a member of the NFPA 1600 Technical Committee for Emergency Management and Business Continuity Programs. He currently serves on the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Standards Practitioner's Working Group and is also working with FEMA to develop a NIMS Standard for Resource Management. Mr. Fletcher has also coordinated with other accreditation bodies such as the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), the Joint Commission on Accreditation for Health Care Organizations and the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) in an effort to understand the industry best practices.

EMAP is a voluntary accreditation process for emergency management programs that coordinate preparedness and response activities for disasters based on national standards. EMAP recognizes the ability of state and local governments and private companies to bring together personnel, resources and communications from a variety of agencies and organizations in preparation for and in response to an emergency, in addition to obtaining the ability to measure those capabilities. This forms the foundation of the nation's emergency preparedness system. EMAP is the only accreditation process for emergency management programs.

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