**Media Release**
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# Anchorage Becomes First Jurisdiction in Alaska to Achieve EMAP Accreditation

**National recognition reflects demonstrated compliance and a commitment to continuous improvement**

FALLS CHURCH, Va. — The Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) announces that the Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska, has achieved accreditation, becoming the first jurisdiction in Alaska to earn this distinction.

The achievement recognizes Anchorage's demonstrated compliance with the *Emergency Management Standard* following a comprehensive process of self-assessment, documentation, and independent peer review. It marks a significant milestone for emergency management in Alaska and establishes a foundation for sustained accountability and continuous improvement across the Municipality's emergency management program.

"Anchorage's achievement sets a new benchmark for emergency management in Alaska," said Jody Ferguson, Chair of the EMAP Commission. "Accreditation requires a jurisdiction to demonstrate how its emergency management program meets rigorous national standards and how it will sustain that performance. Anchorage has accepted that responsibility and become the first jurisdiction in Alaska to earn this recognition. That is meaningful leadership: making preparedness a continuing commitment to the people and communities you serve."

The accreditation process examines the emergency management program across the jurisdiction, extending beyond the work of a single office. It evaluates how participating departments and partners establish responsibilities, coordinate plans, manage resources, develop personnel, and assess their capabilities. The process also helps programs identify gaps, implement improvements, and document progress against established standards.

For Anchorage, accreditation provides a consistent framework for strengthening preparedness as hazards, operational demands, and community needs evolve. The *Emergency Management Standard* addresses program governance, planning, hazard identification and risk assessment, continuity, resource management, communications, training, exercises, and corrective action.

Accreditation is valid for five years and carries an ongoing responsibility to maintain compliance. Through continued evaluation and improvement, Anchorage can build on this milestone and sustain the practices that support effective emergency management.

**About EMAP**

The Emergency Management Accreditation Program strengthens emergency management through credible standards, self-assessment, and independent peer review. Its accreditation process provides programs of varying sizes, risks, and resources with a comprehensive framework for evaluating capabilities and advancing continuous improvement.

For more information about EMAP and accredited programs, visit **www.emap.org**.