



Jay Knox, Executive Director, Safeguard Iowa Partnership - was selected by the Board of Directors on November 14, 2022, after being a public sector partner in the organization for over 10 years.

Jay has over 31 years of uniformed military service. A graduate of the United States Military Academy, West Point, NY, he served over 10 years on active duty in various airborne, command, staff, and overseas assignments in Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and South Korea. He left active duty to become a Federal Agent with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service but continued his service in the Iowa Army National Guard with multiple assignments in the Joint Operations Center/State Emergency Operations Center during various domestic emergencies, disaster responses, and national level exercises. Jay commanded Iowa's Joint Forces Headquarters and Military Academy/Regional Training Institute before retiring as a Colonel in 2017 as the Chief of the Joint Staff.

A federal agent for over 23 years, Jay worked numerous assignments including Dangerous Mail, Violent Crimes, Homeland/National Security Investigations, and was the Threat Management and Firearms Training Coordinator for 11 states. A certified Dangerous Mail Investigations Specialist, he responded to incidents involving suspicious mail, hazardous substances, and improvised explosives. Jay was also a Violent Crimes Specialist and responded nationwide to homicides and major violent crimes involving USPS employees.

Jay has over 20 years of fire service and emergency management experience as a nationally certified Arson Investigator, Fire Captain, Fire Engineer, Firefighter I, Crash/Victim Extrication and Rescue Specialist. As a firefighter/rescue specialist, he worked rescue and recovery inside the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building following the terrorist bombing in Oklahoma City, OK.

A member of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's Emergency Services Sector Coordinating Council (ESSCC) and the Iowa Department of Health & Human Services Preparedness Advisory Committee (PAC), he is also an Adjunct Criminal Justice Instructor for the Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC). He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, NY, graduated from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Ft. Leavenworth, KS and has a Master's degree in Strategic Studies from the Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, PA.

Jay is a member of the International Association of Bomb Technicians and Investigators, the International Association of Homicide Investigators, an associate member of the Iowa Emergency Management Association and numerous veterans, church, and civic organizations. He lives in Urbandale, IA with his wife, Masami. They have a daughter in college and a son in high school.



Strengthening the capacity of Iowa and Iowans to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters through public/private collaboration.

Together. Helping Iowans.