

# Safeguard Iowa Partnership Appoints New Executive Director

Tuesday, November 29, 2022 - Des Moines, Iowa

On November 14, 2022, the Board of Directors of the Safeguard Iowa Partnership selected retired federal agent and Iowa Army National Guard Colonel Jay Knox as the new Executive Director of the Safeguard Iowa Partnership.

Knox, a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY, has over 31 years of uniformed military service. In 1999, he left active duty to become a Federal Agent with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service in Des Moines, IA but continued his military service in the Iowa Army National Guard with multiple assignments in the state's Emergency Operations Center during various domestic emergencies, disaster responses, and national level exercises. Colonel Knox retired from the Guard in 2017 as the Chief of the Joint Staff. As a federal agent for over 23 years, his assignments included Dangerous Mail, Violent Crimes, Homeland and National Security Investigations. He was the Threat Management and Firearms Training Coordinator for 11 states. Knox also 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. A graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Ft. Leavenworth, KS, he earned a Master's degree in Strategic Studies from the Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, PA. Knox is an Adjunct Criminal Justice Instructor for the Des Moines Area Community College. He is a member of the International Association of Bomb Technicians and Investigators, the International Association of Homicide Investigators, CISA Emergency Services Sector Coordinating Council and numerous veterans, church, and civic organizations.

Curt Sullivan, Safeguard Iowa Partnership Chairperson said, *"We are very excited to have Jay onboard. He has a decorated military service, extensive public safety background and service-driven mindset that will serve our mission very well. The focus over the coming months will be to engage both public and private sector partners, enhance existing relationships and expand on new opportunities."*

## About Safeguard Iowa

The Safeguard Iowa Partnership is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation that began in 2007 as a coalition of the state's business and government leaders, who shared a commitment to strengthen the capacity of the state to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters through the collaboration of private sector business and public sector agencies. The Partnership empowers businesses to integrate business resources, expertise, and plans with those of government during all stages of emergency management. Safeguard Iowa assists in the development of all-hazard plans to pool resources and information, coordinate response and recovery efforts, and share training and exercise opportunities. Safeguard Iowa currently has over 1200 members and coordinating partners across the state of Iowa.

As a non-profit corporation, the Safeguard Iowa Partnership could not continue its critical mission without the generosity of Iowa businesses, private donors, and government partners. If you'd like to provide financial assistance to their on-going efforts, please go to [www.safeguardiowa.org/donate](http://www.safeguardiowa.org/donate) to donate.

## Follow-up, interviews, story ideas, etc., please contact:

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