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National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster

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Alexandria, VA – Sept. 19, 2016 – National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) is pleased to announce the appointment of Gregory A. Forrester as President and CEO. After an extensive nationwide search process, Forrester emerged as the top candidate and was unanimously elected by the National VOAD Board of Directors. He takes over the helm of the organization on November 14.

Forrester brings more than 20 years of emergency management and leadership experience from a diverse career in the public, private and nonprofit sectors. He previously served as Assistant General Secretary for United States Disaster Response for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) where he led responses to dozens of disasters on the national, state and local levels. Forrester came to UMCOR, a global humanitarian disaster relief and development organization with US and international operations, in 2013 from the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM), where he directed responses to natural disasters in the US and Caribbean.

"The Board of Directors is excited to welcome Greg Forrester as National VOAD President and CEO. He is a visionary and experienced leader who brings a wealth of knowledge and abilities to this key leadership role," said April D. Wood, National VOAD Board Chairperson. "Mr. Forrester has a strong history with the VOAD movement, and we are confident it will only continue to strengthen under his leadership."

Forrester also worked as a New York State trooper, operated several businesses, and served on the National VOAD Board of Directors as secretary prior to his selection. Forrester currently resides in Cortland, NY, with his wife of 28 years and their children.

"National VOAD is an incredible organization that connects disaster response and recovery resources across the nation. Our members represent the best this country has to offer. I am grateful and humbled to receive the opportunity to lead the organization," said Forrester.

He will join National VOAD's leadership team, which includes a 12-person board of directors led by Chairperson April Wood, Vice Chairperson Zach Wolgemuth, Secretary Michael Stadie, Treasurer

Kate Dischino and Assistant Treasurer Jay Burdick.

About National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD)

National VOAD, an association of organizations that mitigate and alleviate the impact of disasters, provides a forum promoting cooperation, communication, coordination and collaboration; and fosters more effective delivery of services to communities affected by disaster. Over the past 46 years the VOAD movement, which includes more than 100 member organizations, have provided the leadership that builds strong, resilient communities and delivers hope in times of need. For more information, visit nvoad.org.

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