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Ted Strickland, Governor

STATE OF OHIO

Henry Guzmán, Director

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**October 22, 2008**

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### **Ohio EMA Director Elected President of National Emergency Management Association**

(COLUMBUS) — Recently Ohio EMA Executive Director Nancy Dragani became the 31st president, and the second president from Ohio, to serve the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), a non-partisan association dedicated to enhancing public safety.

NEMA is the professional association of and for emergency management directors from all 50 states, eight territories and the District of Columbia. They provide national leadership and expertise in comprehensive emergency management; serve as a vital emergency management information and assistance resource; and advance continuous improvement in emergency management through strategic partnerships, innovative programs and collaborative policy positions.

“We are proud to be part of this association and to serve in a leadership role,” said Ohio Department of Public Safety Director Henry Guzmán. “Any time we have the opportunity to network with our partners around the nation and share best practices we have developed in Ohio, the public stands to benefit.”

Through Ohio EMA, the Ohio Department of Public Safety is the state agency responsible for coordinating activities to mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters, both natural and man-made.

“I am honored to serve as NEMA’s 31<sup>st</sup> president. I look forward to continuing to build relationships among our federal, state, local and private sector partners as we work together to strengthen a national emergency management system,” Dragani said.

The primary purpose of NEMA is to be the source of information, support and expertise for people at all levels of government and the private sector who prepare for, mitigate, respond to, recover from and provide products and services for all emergencies, disasters and threats to the nation’s security.

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