



HEADQUARTERS IOWA NATIONAL GUARD
Office of the Adjutant General
Camp Dodge Joint Maneuver Training Center
7105 NW 70th Avenue
Johnston, Iowa 50131-1824

January 10, 2018

Dear Selection Committee:

I am pleased to nominate and strongly endorse John Halbrook for his selection into the Business Record Forty under 40 program. As the Adjutant General for the Iowa National Guard and Department Director for the Iowa Department of Public Defense, who works closely with Safeguard Iowa Partnership in disaster and disaster planning coordination, I am intimately familiar with John's achievements and contributions to the State of Iowa. His vast homeland security experiences, combined with his numerous community outreach engagements efforts, and achievements make him uniquely suited to be selected as an effective leader into the Forty under 40 program.

John has made significant and enduring accomplishments throughout the State of Iowa and within the Homeland Emergency Management community as a Disaster Planner and instructor. He has established a path forward for several Iowa cities by developing programs and systems that allow them to respond more affectively to local disasters. During his tenure with the Iowa Department of Homeland Security Emergency Management, John was successful as the Exercise Training Officer in conducting the training and exercises that developed most of the primary State of Iowa agencies into a cohesive response group today. Due to his personal efforts, the State of Iowa was able to respond and recover from the Floods of 2008, 2011, and other state disasters in a timely, effective manner.

As the Homeland Security Emergency Management Duty and Exercise Training Officer, John was one of the first Training Officers to train the major state agencies and local county emergency managers in the Advanced Incident Command and NIMS courses. It was in this duty capacity, that I had the privilege to work alongside him during several state disasters and emergency operations. I worked on a daily basis with John during the "Great Flood of 2008" and 2011, where I was able to watch him effectively manage the disaster response and recovery operations within the State Emergency Operations Center. I observed him spending extremely long days and nights at the operations center on Camp Dodge managing the state response to ensure that all aspects of safety, health, and security of Iowans were adequately met. Immediately after the flood of 2008, he worked with the lead joint damage assessment team from FEMA and Small Business Administration to help Iowa communities effectively recover from the disasters. He was part of the largest rebuild of Iowa infrastructure and communities in the history of the state. Within two years of starting the rebuild of Iowa infrastructure, most recovery efforts to rebuild Iowa were either on-going or had been completed.

John has spent his entire career serving not only his local community, but also the State of Iowa as a whole. He has made a difference at every level of leadership assignment he has served. He is a trained firefighter, certified Paramedic, and managed the AED program and training for the Capitol complex in Des Moines. He has volunteered to serve on the Ankeny and

Johnston Fire Departments, and has worked for the Department of Public Health as a member of their Public Health response team.

I believe that John Halbrook has dedicated his life to serving Iowa. He has been and continues to be a role model for the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management as well as the Program Coordinator for Safeguard Iowa Partnership. He has that rare combination of ability, enthusiasm, leadership and insight that has enabled him to be effective in multiple leadership positions. As such, he is an inspiration to all Iowans, making a difference every day in his community and state. I strongly urge the selection of John Halbrook to the Business Record Forty under 40 program.

Sincerely,

Timothy E. Orr
Major General, Iowa National Guard
The Adjutant General