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NASUCA Presents its Highest Award, the Robert F. Manifold Award, to Montana Consumer Counsel Robert A. Nelson

Silver Spring, MD – At its 2017 Annual Meeting in Baltimore, MD, the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA) today voted unanimously to present its highest award, the “Robert F. Manifold Award,” to Mr. Robert A. Nelson. Mr. Nelson has served as Montana Consumer Counsel since 1988.

Mr. Nelson has dedicated his legal career to public service, beginning his career with the Montana Public Service Commission as a Staff Attorney. He then served as Chief Legal Counsel for the Commission before becoming Montana Consumer Counsel. Mr. Nelson has held his current position for 29 years and is Montana’s longest Serving Consumer Counsel.

Mr. Nelson has been a passionate advocate for the mission of NASUCA, serving for many years on the NASUCA Executive Committee. Mr. Nelson served as NASUCA Secretary in 2010, NASUCA Treasurer from 2011-2013, NASUCA Vice President from November 2013 to Spring of 2014, and has served as NASUCA President since 2014. Mr. Nelson is the longest serving NASUCA President. Mr. Nelson has also served on the Member Advisory Committee of the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) since 2013

“It is with great respect that NASUCA presents the Robert F. Manifold Award this year to Bob Nelson, whom I’ve had the honor of working with for many years,” said Elin Katz, Connecticut’s Consumer Counsel and NASUCA President-Elect. “Bob embodies the principles and characteristics of public service recognized by the award. He has been a tireless advocate for utility consumers and for NASUCA as an organization and was instrumental in successfully managing NASUCA through a leadership change. This makes it a special honor to present this award to Bob.”

The “Robert F. Manifold Award” is NASUCA’s highest award. It is awarded to individuals who have demonstrated the highest level of dedication to public service over their career. The award is named for Robert F. Manifold, who served as Chief Public Counsel for the Washington

Attorney General's Office and was a passionate supporter of NASUCA. Prior recipients include Sonny Popowsky (PA), Gerry Norlander (NY PULP), Betty Noel (DC People's Counsel) and David Bergmann (OH) and Mr. Simon ffitich (WA).

NASUCA is a voluntary association of 45 consumer advocate offices in 41 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Barbados, along with Association and Affiliate members that also represent utility consumer interests. NASUCA's members are designated by the laws of their respective jurisdictions to represent the interests of utility consumers before state and federal regulators and in the courts. For more information, please see <http://nasuca.org/>.