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Contact: Chris Ayers- NASUCA President, (919) 733-2435, Chris.Ayers@psncuc.nc.gov
David Springe - NASUCA Executive Director, (785) 550-760, David.Springe@nasuca.org

Irwin “Sonny” Popowsky Outstanding Service Award Recipients

Silver Spring, MD – At its 2023 Annual Meeting, the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA) today presented its Irwin “Sonny” Popowsky Outstanding Service Awards. The Popowsky Award recognizes individuals that have given outstanding service to NASUCA as an organization. Two award recipients served on the NASUCA executive leadership team and as officers of the organization. The awards recipients are:

- Chris Ayers - Executive Director, North Carolina Utilities Commission Public Staff, NASUCA President and Executive Committee member
- Nanette Edwards - Former Executive Director, South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff outgoing NASUCA Executive Committee member
- Regina Costa, Telecom Policy Director, the Utility Reform Network (TURN), Chair of the NASUCA Telecom Committee
- Barrett Sheridan - Assistant Consumer Advocate, Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate, Vice-Chair of the NASUCA Telecom Committee

NASUCA also presented Charles, “Trey” Murphy, Illinois Attorney General’s Office with a NASUCA Service Plaque for his time serving as Chair of the NASUCA Consumer Protection Committee.

“I can’t think of a group of individuals that better represents the characteristics and service embodied by the Popowsky awards,” said Michael Moody, Division Chief, Special Litigation Division, Utility Consumer Advocacy, Michigan Department of Attorney General and incoming NASUCA President. *“Chris Ayers has served as NASUCA President for almost three years and has worked tirelessly traveling the country speaking for utility consumers and the importance of our NASUCA Offices. All award winners have given exemplary service to NASUCA and have been leaders and role models for NASUCA members and NASUCA Office leaders.”*

The Irwin “Sonny” Popowsky award is NASUCA’s second highest award. It is awarded to Individuals who have given outstanding service to NASUCA as an organization. Sonny Popowsky, spent his career at the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate, serving as the Consumer Advocate of Pennsylvania from 1990 to 2012. He served on the NASUCA executive leadership team for many years, holding every officer position and serving as President of the (NASUCA) from 1996 to 1998. He Chaired the NASUCA Electric Committee and served on many boards and councils on NASUCA’s behalf. In 1988, he briefed and argued the United States Supreme Court case of *Duquesne Light Company v. Barasch*, in which the Court upheld the position of the OCA that two Pennsylvania electric utilities had no constitutional right to charge consumers for the costs of four cancelled nuclear power plants

NASUCA is a voluntary association of 61 consumer advocate offices in 45 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/>.