

American Society of Pension Professionals & Actuaries

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ASPPA Honors Callahan

Washington, DC – Jan. 08, 2008 – The American Society of Pension Professionals & Actuaries (ASPPA) honored **Michael E. Callahan** with the **2007 Harry T. Eidson Award** at its recent annual conference here. Callahan, of Southington, served as president of ASPPA in 1996 and was instrumental in the formation of its government affairs committee.

Callahan has served on the board of directors, chaired a number of ASPPA committees, and delivered expert testimony in Congress and before various councils and boards of federal agencies. He wrote many of the original white papers at ASPPA, founded its political action committee, and was responsible for the formation of the ASPPA benefits councils.

ASPPA established the award in 1995 to honor the memory of its founder, Harry T. Eidson. His belief in the importance of a private pension system in the United States and in having an organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing such a system was the inspiration for the formation of ASPPA in 1966. Each year, ASPPA honors one or two individuals for contributing to this cause. Recipients either are members of ASPPA or can be from outside of the membership.

Having majored in mathematics, Callahan chose the actuarial profession as a career. He decided to enter the pension field upon graduation and with the passage of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), newly enrolled pension actuaries were on a level playing field with those already practicing. Callahan's first job was with Connecticut Mutual where he worked in the Pension Valuation Department. Later, he worked at Aetna Financial, then joined a small consulting firm, and eventually became a partner. He founded Pentec, Pension Actuaries & Consultants, which grew into one of the largest independent actuarial consulting firm in Connecticut.

[E-photograph available]

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ASPPA is a national organization of more than 6,400 retirement plan professionals who provide consulting and administrative services for qualified retirement plans covering millions of American workers. ASPPA members are retirement professionals of all disciplines including consultants, administrators, actuaries, accountants, and attorneys. The large and broad-based membership gives it unusual insight into current practical problems with the Employee Retirement Income Security Act and qualified retirement plans with a particular focus on the issues faced by small- to medium-sized employers. ASPPA membership is diverse and united by a common dedication to the private retirement plan system.

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