

American Society of Pension Professionals & Actuaries

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COPA Merges with ASPPA

Arlington, Va. – Sept. 25, 2008 –The membership of the College of Pension Actuaries (COPA) overwhelmingly voted to merge its work in the pension actuarial profession with the American Society of Pension Professionals & Actuaries (ASPPA). The group formed by this combination will be the ASPPA College of Pension Actuaries (ACOPA).

The vote was more than 80 percent in favor of the merger. Members of COPA will automatically obtain membership in ASPPA and receive the benefits of such status. In a message to COPA members following the vote, COPA President Mike Preston wrote, “I am pleased to announce that the vote to combine with ASPPA was overwhelmingly approved. The COPA membership approved a resolution to combine with the American Society of Pension Professionals and Actuaries. Let me be the first to welcome you as members of ACOPA.”

ACOPA will provide a new platform catering to the specific needs of pension actuaries in the United States. ASPPA President Sal Tripodi said the vote is a welcome culmination of many months of effort to bring together the common goals of pension actuaries united at one place. “ASPPA membership is excited about having the broad expertise of the pension practice of the U.S. actuarial profession combine to provide better public policy on retirement issues and a bright retirement future for Americans,” Tripodi said.

For additional information, or to speak with a spokesperson, contact Chris Robichaux, director of media relations at ASPPA – crobichaux@asppa.org or call 703-516-9300, ext. 130.

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The American Society of Pension Professionals & Actuaries (ASPPA), based in Arlington, Va., 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 ASPPA 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.

The College of Pension Actuaries (COPA), based in Oak Brook, Ill., is the only U.S. organization composed exclusively of enrolled pension actuaries. COPA advances the knowledge of actuarial science as it relates to retirement and other employee benefit plans. It promotes and maintains high professional and ethical standards among its members, enables actuaries engaged in pension practice to assemble and discuss common problems, and promotes the interchange of information among actuaries and among the leaders of the various actuarial organizations. COPA keeps the public informed of the profession and of the responsibilities of the professional actuary and encourages congressional and grass roots support for a cohesive national retirement security policy.

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