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National Institute of Pension Administrators Presents Awards at the 2016 NIPA Annual Forum & Expo

Chicago — The National Institute of Pension Administrators (NIPA), the only organization focused exclusively on providing resources for TPA business owners to successfully navigate the lifecycle of their business, is pleased to announce the 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award recipients, 2016 Excellence in Education Award recipient and 2016 Outstanding Volunteer Award recipient.

The Lifetime Achievement Award has been awarded to two recipients who are NIPA volunteers that have significantly contributed to the association and industry over several years.

Theresa Conti, QKA, APR, ERPA, has spent the last 20 plus years working with clients to achieve the maximum from their retirement plans. Conti has spent her career working at firms such as William M. Mercer, Inc. and Bisys Qualified Plan Services in Pennsylvania before moving to Arizona in 1994. Conti continued her career with Universal Pensions, Inc. before founding Sunwest Pensions in 1998.

Conti was a member of the Board of Directors of NIPA from 2004 to 2015 and was President for 18 months during 2007 through 2008. She spent six years as a board member with the Arizona chapter of NIPA, including serving three years as President. Conti has also worked with the NIPA Annual Forum & Expo (NAFE) Committee for three years, serving as the Chair for the 2003 event, and has served on the Chapter Leadership Task Force.

Lynn M. Roy, APA, RPA, of MassMutual Financial Group, is an industry leader with nearly 40 years of financial services experience, focused on worksite and retirement plans. As Head of TPA Market Development for MassMutual, she is an advocate for TPAs and works collaboratively to increase sales and develop solutions that impact the bottom line and provide a competitive edge.

Roy has been a member of the NIPA since 1999. As a volunteer, she led NIPA's Education Committee to redesign the curriculum and move to on-line testing. She previously served on NIPA's BMC (Business Management Conference) committee and was President of the Connecticut Chapter of NIPA. Roy served on NIPA's Board of Directors from 2004 to 2015 and was appointed Chief Financial Officer (2008-2009) and President (2010-2011).

The Excellence in Education Award recipient is chosen based on the substantial improvement and contributions they have towards NIPA Educational Programs.

Timothy M. McCutcheon, JD, CPA, MBA, is the Publisher of ERISApedia.com and President of Burrmont Compliance Labs, LLC. McCutcheon is the founder of ftwilliam.com, the most innovative document and government forms provider in the industry. He wrote the first web-based 5500 forms package and introduced the first retirement plan document e-sign system.

McCutcheon is a regular contributor to NIPA and its educational programs as an NAFE speaker and webcast presenter. His development of ERISApedia.com became an online resource that NIPA uses for their Accredited Pension Administrator (APA) 4 and Accredited Pension Representative (APR) 2 courses. Prior to founding ERISApedia.com and ftwilliam.com, his law practice included counseling TPAs, financial service companies and other benefit service providers regarding qualified plan product design and compliance.

The Outstanding Volunteer Award recipient is selected to receive this award based on their notable contributions on a volunteer basis toward the association.

Kristina Kananen, APA, of DATAIR Employee Benefit Systems, Inc., has volunteered for NIPA since she received her Accredited Pension Administrator (APA) designation many years ago. She has worked on the NIPA Annual Forum & Expo Planning Committee, NIPA Designation Committee and on the Board of her local NIPA Study Group.

Volunteering has allowed Kananen to contribute to the development of professional standing for administrators and representatives by drawing on her knowledge and experience in the pension industry. As a result of volunteering, she has made beneficial and valued relationships with NIPA members from around the country.

“All the recipients are deserving of the acknowledgement and recognition of these awards, as their volunteer work has helped advance the association and the industry,” said NIPA Executive Director, Laura J. Rudzinski. “NIPA would not be where it is today without the support from individuals like these. We are grateful for their contributions and excited to have honored them amongst their peers.”

The NIPA Awards were presented at the annual awards ceremony during the 2016 NIPA Annual Forum & Expo (2016NAFE), May 1-4, at The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas, Las Vegas, Nev.

For more information on NIPA and the NAFE, visit www.nipa.org/NAFE.

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About NIPA

The National Institute of Pension Administrators (NIPA) is a national association that serves TPA business owners by creating environments with world-class education, best-practices exchanges, and deep peer-to-peer relationships. As a result, our members' revenue grows dramatically, processes are streamlined, productivity increases, and life-long relationships are developed. For more information, visit www.nipa.org.