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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **2009 NASPO Annual Conference: Stimulus, Green Contracting, Cooperative Procurement and the Role of Public Purchasing**

The National Association of State Procurement Officials celebrated its 62<sup>nd</sup> year at its Annual Conference from September 21-24, 2009 in Lake Tahoe, NV. Chief Procurement Officers and staff from 38 states plus the District of Columbia attended the meeting. The agenda and presentations are available on the NASPO website: [http://www.naspo.org/2009Annual/content.cfm/id/welcome\\_2009\\_annual](http://www.naspo.org/2009Annual/content.cfm/id/welcome_2009_annual).

NASPO's Annual Conference is a time for members to network and learn from their peers about procurement successes, issues and initiatives from other states as well as other governmental jurisdictions. Professional Development training ("Keeping Up in a Down Economy") was offered by Dr. Bob Nelson, and Commander Kirk Lippold of the U.S.S. Cole delivered the Conference's Keynote Address ("Leadership and Accountability When it Matters"). The four (4) NASPO regions also met to discuss regional concerns and cooperative purchasing strategies. Other sessions at this year's event included:

- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Update
- What's Your Solution: An Interactive Approach to Solving Public Procurement Problems
- Green Purchasing
- Procurement and International Trade Agreements
- Cooperative Purchasing and Stimulus Funds
- State Partnerships

NASPO also uses this opportunity to present a number of awards. NASPO Life Member **Richard Pennington** was the 22<sup>nd</sup> recipient of the Gulio Mazzone Distinguished Service Award, which recognizes continuing and exemplary service to the public purchasing profession. **Oregon** won the Gold George Cronin Award for Procurement Excellence with its Information Technology Managed Service Provider (IT MSP) for Hourly and Project Based Services. **Pennsylvania** received the Silver Award and **New York** received the Bronze Award. Submissions were judged against criteria including innovation, transferability, service improvement, uniqueness and originality, demonstrable cost-reduction, and the involvement of using agencies. Additional information can be found on the NASPO website: [http://www.naspo.org/content.cfm/id/cronin\\_award](http://www.naspo.org/content.cfm/id/cronin_award).

Finally, the Annual Conference provides NASPO members an opportunity to conduct official business regarding the future direction of the organization. **Dianne Lancaster** (OR) was sworn in as President, while **Greg Smith** (NV) was elected President-Elect. The NASPO Board of Directors also added several new members, including **John Utterback** (CO), **Dean Stotler** (DE), and **Tim Gibney** (GA). **David Gragan** (DC), **Jeff Holden** (SD) and **Ron Bell** (VA) were re-elected and/or reappointed to the Board.

*The National Association of State Procurement Officials is a non-profit association dedicated to strengthening the procurement community through education, research, and communication. It is made up of the directors of the central purchasing offices in each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia and the territories of the United States. NASPO is an organization through which the member purchasing officials provide leadership in professional public purchasing, improve the quality of purchasing and procurement, exchange information and cooperate to attain greater efficiency and economy. Please visit [www.naspo.org](http://www.naspo.org) for additional information.*