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HOWARD AND DAWES TO RECEIVE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AWARDS
*Empire State Capital Area Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration to
Present Awards at State Fiscal Symposium in May.*

ALBANY, NY – May 1, 2006 – The Empire State Capital Area Chapter (ESCAC) of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA), the nation's most respected society representing all forums in the public service arena, today announced the recipients of its two most prestigious awards to be presented at the annual ASPA Awards Luncheon on Monday, May 22, 2006 at the Empire State Plaza.

William F. Howard, Acting Chief of Staff to Governor George Pataki, has been selected as this year's recipient of the Alfred E. Smith Award and Dr. Sharon Dawes, Director for the Center for Technology in Government at the University at Albany, has been selected as the recipient of the Charles Evans Hughes Award. "Both Mr. Howard and Dr. Dawes should be commended for their tireless efforts on behalf of the citizens of New York State," said Dr. Michael Christakis, President of the Albany-based ASPA chapter. "These awards are a testament to their life-time of achievements and are a fitting recognition of their accomplishments."

The Alfred E. Smith Award is presented in recognition of outstanding individual service and initiative, which may consist of a singular accomplishment that has exemplified superior management and administration within New York State. George C. Sinnott, Chief Executive Office of the New York State Bridge Authority, in his letter nominating Mr. Howard commented, "Throughout the course of our lives we may be fortunate enough to encounter ordinary people who do extraordinary things without expectation of recognition or reward. Mr. Howard would certainly qualify as one of those individuals, as he maintains a distinguished record of meritorious public service which spans two decades."

Prior to his appointment as Acting Chief of Staff to Governor Pataki, William F. Howard served as First Deputy Secretary to the Governor assisting in the day-to-day operations of state government. Howard's responsibilities included labor, civil service and military issues, and general governmental administration. During the days following the September 11th attacks, Mr. Howard helped coordinate the State's response efforts and was awarded the Defense of Liberty Medal for his efforts. In the wake of the attacks, Howard directed and coordinated the State's homeland security efforts, bringing the agencies of New York State government together and helping establish a State Homeland Security Team regarded as one of the finest in the country. Mr. Howard possesses a number of accomplishments prior to September 2001 having served as a key advisor to

Governor Pataki on labor, pension and public employee issues, and serving as Assistant Director of State Operations until 1999. More recently, Mr. Howard has been instrumental in coordinating the State's response effort to Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma including New York State National Guard personnel and equipment to assist in rescue.

The Charles Evans Hughes Award is presented in recognition of outstanding individual service that has exemplified superior management and administration within New York State over an extended period of time. More than a decade ago, Dr. Sharon Dawes became the first Director of the then-new Center for Technology in Government (CTG) at the University at Albany and "set out to create a new kind of partnership between research and practice in New York State government," writes nominator Theresa Pardo.

Over the past thirteen years the Center for Technology in Government has engaged in 29 partnership projects that have helped to improve the services and operations of state, local, and federal government agencies. Under Dawes' leadership, the Center has collaborated with nearly 100 government agencies, 42 private companies, and 14 academic institutions and research organizations. Additionally, the Center has developed and evaluated 12 prototype systems that answered critical policy, management, organizational, and technology questions. In 1997, Dawes won *Governing Magazine's* Public Official of the Year for building a culture of collaboration and cooperation among New York State's "sprawling information management structure." In 2004, Dawes was named by *Government Technology* a "Top 25 Doer, Dreamer and Driver." In addition to her responsibilities as Director of CTG, Dawes is an Associate Professor of Public Administration and Policy at the University at Albany and a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration.

Mr. Howard and Dr. Dawes will be presented their awards at the annual ASPA Awards Luncheon on Monday, May 22, 2006 at the Empire State Plaza, this year held as part of the Fiscal Symposium co-sponsored by the State Academy of Public Administration (SAPA) and the Empire State Capital Area Chapter (ESCAC) of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA).

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