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PRESS RELEASE

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\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has been awarded the prestigious 22nd Annual Achievement of Excellence in Procurement® (AEP) for 2017 from the National Procurement Institute, Inc. (NPI). The AEP Award is earned by public and non-profit organizations that obtain a high application score based on standardized criteria. The AEP is awarded annually to recognize Innovation, Professionalism, E-Procurement, Productivity, and Leadership in the procurement function.

The AEP program encourages the development of excellence as well as continued organizational improvement to earn the award annually.

For 2017, there were 205 successful applicants, including 48 counties, 68 cities, 25 higher education agencies, 26 school districts, 26 special districts, and 12 state agencies.

In addition to the National Procurement Institute, Inc. (NPI), the AEP is sponsored by the California Association of Public Procurement Officials (CAPPO), Institute for Supply Management (ISM), Florida Association of Public Procurement Officials (FAPPO), NIGP: The Institute for Public Procurement, National Association of Educational Procurement (NAEP), Texas Public Purchasing Association (TxPPA), and the Canadian Public Procurement Council / Conseil canadien des marchés publics (CPPC). The AEP is supported by the Airport Purchasing Group (APG), the National Association of State Procurement Officials (NASPO), the National Intergovernmental Purchasing Alliance (National IPA), the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA), the Universal Public Procurement Certification Council (UPPCC) and U.S. Communities,