

McCULLOUGH EARNS CERTIFIED ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE CREDENTIAL

Washington, DC (January 22, 2007) -- The American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) has announced that Randy L. McCullough, Deputy Executive Director of the New York State Funeral Directors Association (NYSFDA) has earned the Certified Association Executive (CAE) credential. The CAE is the highest professional credential to those practicing in the association management field. Less than five percent of all association professionals have earned the CAE.

To be designated as a Certified Association Executive, applicants must have attained various professional benchmarks, such as levels of experience and specialized professional development. They must also pass a stringent examination that tests knowledge in a wide variety of areas as well as aptitude to deal with real-world situations that association executives encounter. Individuals must also take ongoing professional development in association management in order to maintain the certification.

McCullough has been the deputy executive director of the New York State Funeral Directors Association (NYSFDA) for 3 ½ years, having previously served for almost six years as NYSFDA Director of Government Affairs. From 1988 - 1998, he was a senior policy and budget aide/committee director in the New York State Assembly and played a leading role in five successful political campaigns. McCullough graduated Hartwick College (Oneonta, NY) with a B.A. in Political Science, earning Departmental Distinction honors. He also undertook graduate studies at The George Washington University, Washington, DC.

ASAE is an individual membership organization comprised of more than 22,000 association executives who manage leading trade associations, individual membership societies and voluntary organizations throughout the United States and in 50 countries around the globe. It also serves as the principal advocacy voice for voluntary organizations.

McCullough is Chairman of the Government Affairs Council for the Albany-based Empire State Society of Association Executives (ESSAE), having served as a director. He has also been a member of the board of directors for several organizations, including the American Red Cross (Northeastern New York Chapter) and the Hartwick College Alumni Association, where he served on its Executive Committee and led the Albany-area Chapter for several years. Currently, he serves on the board of directors of the United Presbyterian Church and the Green Hill Cemetery Association, both of which are in Amsterdam.