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WRAP COMMEMORATES 33rd YEAR IN FIGHTING DRUNK DRIVING AND UNDERAGE DRINKING

GREATER WASHINGTON INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS LAUDED FOR THEIR COMMUNITY SERVICE

Washington, DC, October 16 – The nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) commemorated its 33rd year fighting drunk driving and underage drinking today during its 2015 Annual Luncheon Meeting and WRAPPY Awards ceremony held at Maggiano's Little Italy in Washington, D.C.

In the last twelve months alone, WRAP highlights include the organization:

- removing over 2,000 (2,049) would-be drunk drivers from Greater Washington's roadways via WRAP's free cab ride service, **SoberRide®**, including: the latest version on Independence Day shepherding a nearly 50-percent increase in ridership; ushering a new holiday offering on Cinco de Mayo this year and launching the same with a bilingual news conference; ushering-in new SoberRide sponsors as well as earning a nod in Time magazine for the local and lifesaving program;
- reaching nearly 7,000 Greater Washington high school students with WRAP's innovative and multi-media education program, **Alcohol Awareness for Students**;
- celebrating the 23rd year of WRAP's esteemed **GEICO Student Awards** program recognizing area student organizations promoting alcohol and drug-free lifestyles to their peers and this year with a record level of monetary prizes;
- successfully helping to champion Maryland's **legislative efforts** to crackdown on that state's most serious DUI offenders by doubling and quadrupling their administrative license suspension periods as well as allowing for license revocation for certain subsequent DUI offenses and, in Virginia, helping to beat back attempts to lessen that state's penalties for a number of DUI offenses including for persons refusing a BAC test;

- and spearheading the region's 14th-annual **Checkpoint Strikeforce** campaign which, at the beginning of WRAP's fiscal year, included the introduction of a new anti-drunk driving superhero, SoberWoman – including said caped crime-fighter earning a spot on Washingtonian's zeitgeist listing otherwise known as the magazine's January "Guest List" containing a "roundup of people" they'd like to have over for dinner – and at the end of the year launching new campaign creative celebrating the region's "beautiful" designated sober drivers.

This afternoon, WRAP also bestowed the following honors:

2015 COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AWARD

- AT&T
- GEICO
- Glory Days Grill
- Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
- Red Top Cab of Arlington
- Virginia Commonwealth University's Center for School-Community Collaboration and Virginia's Department of Behavioral Health

2015 LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARD

- Arlington County Police Department Chief M. Douglas Scott, retired

2015 YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARD

- Prince George's County Public School's Instructional Supervisor of Health Education Nana Donkor

2015 MEDIA PARTNERSHIP AWARD

- Connection Newspapers Publisher & Editor Mary Kimm

2015 PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

- Honorable Kathy Afzali (R-Carroll & Frederick Counties), Maryland House of Delegates
- Honorable William Folden (R-Frederick County), Maryland House of Delegates

2015 CHAIRMAN'S AWARD

- Glory Days Grill's Vice President of Operations Gary Cohen

2015 PUBLIC PARTNERSHIP AWARD

- District of Columbia Department of Transportation
- Maryland Highway Safety Office
- Virginia Highway Safety Office

2015 CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP AWARD (contributing \$5,000 or more to WRAP in fiscal year 2015):

- AAA Mid-Atlantic
- Beer Institute
- Bobby McKey's Dueling Piano Bar
- Constellation Brands

- Diageo
- District of Columbia Association of Beverage Alcohol Wholesalers
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car
- Foundation for Advancing Alcohol Responsibility
- GEICO
- Giant Food
- MillerCoors
- Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington
- Volkswagen Group of America
- Washington Area New Automobile Dealers Association
- Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America

2015 CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP AWARD

- Anheuser-Busch and Local Distributors

WRAP today also elected the following officers: **Liz Tobin**, Chairman; **Gary Cohen** (Glory Days Grill), Vice Chairman; **Todd Heavner** (Enterprise Rent-A-Car), Secretary; **Jim Fell** (Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation), Treasurer; and **Lieutenant Rudy Landon** (Loudoun County Sheriff's Office), Immediate Past Chairman.

In addition, the charity also elected the following five individuals to its Board of Directors: **Andrea Allen** (Department of the Army), **Thomas Tom Calcagni** (AAA Mid-Atlantic), **Joy Dubost** (Beer Institute), **Melissa Shear** (District of Columbia's Office of the Attorney General) and **Chris Verdecchia** (Glory Days Grill); as well as elected the following seven individuals as WRAP Members: **Nana Donkor** (Prince George's County Public Schools), **Chief Mary Gavin** (Falls Church Police Department), **David McMillion** (Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments), **Jamie Miller** (Giant Food), **Joanne Reed** (Eleanor Roosevelt High School SADD Club), **James Ryan** (Constellation Brands) and **Diane Wagner** (MillerCoors).

Sponsors of WRAP's 2015 Annual Luncheon Meeting & WRAPPY Awards included AAA Mid-Atlantic, the Foundation for Advancing Alcohol Responsibility, the Charmer Sunbelt Group, the Coalition of Ignition Interlock Manufacturers, the McAndrew Company, PAS Systems International, Chris Tavlarides and Undeland Associates.

Founded in 1982, the nonprofit [501(c)(3)] Washington Regional Alcohol Program is a coalition of diverse interests using effective education, innovative programs, and targeted advocacy to end alcohol-impaired driving and underage drinking in the Washington, DC metro area. Through public education, innovative health education programs and advocacy, WRAP is credited with keeping the metro-Washington area's alcohol-related traffic deaths consistently lower than the national average. WRAP, however, may best be known to area residents via the organization's popular free cab ride service for would-be drunk drivers, SoberRide®.

For more information, visit WRAP's web site at www.wrap.org.