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Anita Light Earns Certified Association Executive Distinction

WASHINGTON, July 19, 2010 – Anita Light, director the Children and Family Services Department at the American Public Human Services Association, has earned the much-coveted title of Certified Association Executive from the American Society of Association Executives.

The CAE is the highest professional credential in the association industry. Fewer than 5 percent of association professionals have achieved this mark of excellence, according ASAE President and Chief Executive Officer John Graham IV.

"Anita's experience and expertise in the child and family services field will be significantly enhanced with her recent certification as an ASAE professional and will add considerable value to her work on behalf of the members of APHSA," said Cari DeSantis, APHSA interim executive director.

In addition to being director of her department, Light oversees two APHSA affiliates and is director of a third: the National Association of Public Child Welfare Administrators. In this role, she manages the day-to-day operations of NAPCWA and helps set the direction for public child welfare issues and develop strategic relationships on behalf of the membership.

Prior to this position, she was the director of human resources at APHSA. She worked in public child welfare for 17 years in foster care, adoptions, juvenile delinquency and family therapy, and worked for more than 12 years in the human resources field as a manager, trainer and consultant. Light has a bachelor's degree in sociology/social work from Longwood College and a master's degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

About the APHSA

The American Public Human Services Association is a nonprofit, bipartisan organization of individuals and agencies concerned with human services. Its members include all state and territorial human service agencies, more than 150 local agencies, and several thousand individuals who work in or otherwise have an interest in human service programs. Its mission is to develop, promote and implement public human service policies and practices that improve the health and well-being of families, children and adults.