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### **MEDIA ADVISORY**

## **TIME TO THANK PUBLIC SERVANTS; NATION-WIDE PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN CONNECTS CITIZENS TO GOVERNMENT**

*President Obama and Congress declare first week of May as Public Service Recognition Week*

**WASHINGTON** – On May 3, a coalition of 17 good government organizations will launch *Public Service Recognition Week* 2010, according to the nonprofit Partnership for Public Service and Public Employees Roundtable, organizers of the initiative. The nationwide public education campaign will honor the men and women who serve our nation as federal, state, county and local government employees and ensure that our government is the best in the world.

*Public Service Recognition Week* has been designated by President Obama and Congress to help Americans understand more fully what government does by shining a spotlight on the good work of public servants in communities nationwide during the first week of May.

“Amid the rising chorus of anti-government sentiment it’s important that our nation’s hardworking public servants hear another message – one of thanks,” said Max Stier, president and CEO of the Partnership for Public Service. “*Public Service Recognition Week* is not about big or small government it’s about innovative, effective government and the people who make it work.”

Public servant tributes are scheduled across the nation, from the smallest towns to the nation’s front lawn. The capstone four-day National Mall celebration in Washington, D.C. will feature more than 100 federal and military agency exhibits and is open daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday, May 6 to Sunday, May 9; Sunday, military exhibits and service project only.

Honorary co-chairs for *PSRW* are Department of the Interior Secretary Kenneth L. Salazar; Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius; Department of Energy Secretary Steven Chu; Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric K. Shinseki; General Services Administration Administrator Martha Johnson and Office of Personnel Management Director John Berry. For more information, go to [publicservicerecognitionweek.org](http://publicservicerecognitionweek.org).

**WHAT:** Nationwide *Public Service Recognition Week* highlights:

Tuesday, May 4: ***Celebrate Public Service Reception***, 5:30 p.m. Invitation only, please call to RSVP. ***U.S. Senate PSRW hearing*** on attracting and retaining federal employees. The Senate Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia hearing, “*Work-life Programs: Attracting, Retaining and Empowering the Federal Workforce*,” 2:30 p.m. in room 342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Wednesday, May 5: ***Service to America Medals*** finalists’ announcement. Thirty-two finalists for the nation’s most prestigious public service awards will be honored at a Capitol Hill ceremony with Sen. Ted Kaufman, (D-DE) and Office of Personnel Management Director John Berry, 9 a.m. Invitation only, please call to RSVP.

Thursday, May 6: ***Public Service Recognition Week Opening Celebration*** with Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, Dept. of Health and Human Services; Administrator Martha Johnson, General Services Administration; Director John Berry, Office of Personnel Management; other government leaders and Max Stier, Partnership for Public Service president and CEO, 12:15 p.m., National Mall, between 4th and 7th Streets, N.W.

Friday, May 7: ***Students’ Day Meet Your Heroes*** rally with astronauts, firemen, policemen, marines and more, 10:00 a.m., National Mall, between 4th and 7th Streets, N.W. Plus hundreds of D.C. area students will get a behind-the-scenes look at federal jobs through ***job shadowing at federal agencies***.

Saturday, May 8: First-ever ***Federal Jobs Workshops on the National Mall*** where job seekers can learn about thousands of job opportunities in fields such as public health, international affairs, security and compliance, energy and the environment, plus get insider-tips on how to land a government job, beginning at 10:00 a.m., between 4th and 7th Streets, N.W.

Sunday, May 10: ***Special Thanks to Our Troops Service Project on the National Mall***, write letters to active duty service members in Iraq and Afghanistan, beginning at 10:00 a.m., between 4th and 7th Streets, N.W.

Support for ***Public Service Recognition Week*** is being provided by National Sponsor, Lockheed Martin and Capital Sponsor, Accenture.

**BACKGROUND:** The Partnership for Public Service is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that works to revitalize our federal government by inspiring a new generation to serve and by transforming the way government works.

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