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NEWS RELEASE

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Van Milligen Receives Joe Lukehart Service Award

DUBUQUE, Iowa – Dubuque City Manager Michael C. Van Milligen was awarded the 2009 Joe Lukehart Service Award by the Iowa City/County Management Association. The award was presented last night at the 21st Annual Iowa Municipal Management Institute in Iowa City.

The award is presented to individuals who have promoted or enhanced the city/county management profession in Iowa, and who have made outstanding contributions to the Iowa City/County Management Association (IaCMA). Additionally, the award is given to individuals responsible for promoting the professional development of the IaCMA. The Joe Lukehart Service Award is not presented annually because it is designed to recognize exceptional contributions to the development of the city/county management profession and the state association.

The award is named in honor of Joe Lukehart, who served as president of the IaCMA from 1981-1982. He was city manager in Webster City, Iowa from 1974 to 1982 and played an instrumental role in enhancing the professional development efforts of Iowa's city managers and assistants. Throughout his career, Lukehart demonstrated his deep commitment to the city manager profession, the manager form of government, and colleagues in the IaCMA.

“The 2009 Joe Lukehart Professional Service Award is presented this year to an individual who has supported the city management profession in Iowa, and who has tirelessly contributed to the Iowa City/County Management Association,” said Alan Johnson, IaCMA President.

Van Milligen has served as City Manager for the City of Dubuque since January of 1993. Van Milligen served as the assistant village manager for the City of Skokie, Ill., from May

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1987 to January 1993, and assistant to the village manager from September 1986 to May 1987. Prior to that, he worked in law enforcement, including serving as a police officer from 1977 to 1984 in Carbondale, Illinois.

He holds bachelor's degrees in Fire Science Management and Administration of Justice from Southern Illinois University, where he earned a master's degree in Public Affairs. Additionally, he completed the Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government. He also completed the Kellogg Management Institute at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management, described as "The Essence of an MBA."

In 2003, Van Milligen was named the Outstanding Manager of the Year by the International City Managers Association. This award recognizes a local government administrator who has initiated and implemented creative, innovative projects and programs in the management of his or her community. He currently serves as a Regional Vice President of the ICMA.

In 2004, he was featured as part of the Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government "Innovators in Public Service" Series. Van Milligen served as the 2005-2006 president of the Iowa City/County Management Association. He Milligen was named Manager of the Year in September 2007 by the Iowa City/County Management Association. This annual award honors chief administrators whose accomplishments and superior work performance represent the best possible application of management principles and whose creative contributions to professional local government management increases public awareness of the value of professional management to the quality of life in Iowa communities.

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