

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: WEDNESDAY DEC. 10, 2008

Contact: Samantha Donaldson
(202) 530-3244
sdonaldson@excelgov.org

THE COUNCIL FOR EXCELLENCE IN GOVERNMENT HONORS 25 GREAT PUBLIC SERVANTS

The Council Celebrates 25 Years of Improving Government Performance and Enhancing Public Engagement; Recognizes 25 Individuals for Contributions to Public Service, Achieving Government Excellence

Washington; Dec. 10, 2008— This evening, in celebration of its 25th anniversary, the Council for Excellence in Government is honoring 25 outstanding public servants who have made significant contributions to achieving excellence in government over the past 25 years.

The individuals selected by the Council's Board of Trustees are a bi-partisan group of "greats." From courageous veterans and skilled diplomats to pioneering scientists and steadfast leaders, their backgrounds are diverse but each represents the best of public service. The group of "greats" includes Representative John Lewis, Senator Richard Lugar, the Honorable Thomas Ridge, former U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security and the Honorable Donna Shalala, former U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services.

"Since the Council's inception in 1983, our mission has been to improve government performance and enhance public engagement. The Council's commitment to excellence in government is exemplified in these 25 remarkable honorees from Senator Edward Kennedy to the Honorable James Baker, III," said John Macomber, Chair of the Council's Board of Trustees. "We look forward to working with the next generation of leaders to imagine and achieve excellence in government for the next 25 years and beyond."

As part of the Council's ongoing efforts to improve government and encourage the best and brightest to work within it, they recently unveiled comprehensive, new Web 2.0 transition resources at www.prunesonline.org. These resources comprise a dynamic, one-stop shop for job seekers, transition leaders, prospective nominees, the media and anyone who is interested in the Presidential appointment process. They include the [2008 Prune Job Profiles](#)—the toughest, top management Presidential appointments in President-Elect Obama's administration; [A Survivor's Guide for Presidential Nominees](#); and the interactive [Presidential Appointee Roadmap](#).

The 25 public servants being honored by the Council are: the Honorable Everett Alvarez, Jr.; the Honorable James A. Baker, III; Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg; Mayor Richard M. Daley; Dr. Anthony S. Fauci; the Honorable Al Gore; the Honorable Lee H. Hamilton; the Honorable Shirley A. Jackson; the Honorable Thomas H. Kean; the Honorable Edward M. Kennedy; the Honorable John Lewis; the Honorable Richard G. Lugar; Wilma Mankiller; the Honorable Norman Y. Mineta; the Honorable George J. Mitchell; Justice Sandra Day O'Connor; the Honorable Peter G. Peterson; the Honorable Colin L. Powell; the Honorable Thomas J. Ridge; the Honorable Alice M. Rivlin; the Honorable

- more -

Robert E. Rubin; the Honorable George P. Shultz; the Honorable Donna E. Shalala; the Honorable Paul A. Volcker; and the Honorable John C. Whitehead.

About the Council for Excellence in Government (www.excelgov.org)

Founded 25 years ago in 1983, the Council for Excellence in Government is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that works to improve the performance of government at all levels; and government's place in the lives and esteem of American citizens. With its experienced staff, network of experts and members, and diverse partners, the Council helps to create stronger public sector leadership and management, driven by innovation and focused on results; and increased citizen confidence and participation in government, through better understanding of government and its role.

###