

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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GAMA International to Honor Joseph W. Tucciarone, CFP, with Cy Pick Award at Annual Conference

Falls Church, VA — Recognizing that volunteers are the heart of any professional association, GAMA International will present Joseph W. Tucciarone, CFP, with the prestigious Cy Pick Award at a special dinner at its Leadership and Management Program (LAMP) annual conference March 16-19, 2007, in San Francisco.

The Cy Pick Award is presented to one individual each year who has a long and distinguished history of volunteer contributions to GAMA, often behind the scenes and unknown to others. The award, established in 2000, is named for C. A. "Cy" Pick, CLU ChFC FIC, who served as both GAMA International president and chairman of the GAMA Foundation. Cy Pick is renowned for his willingness to volunteer his time and expertise for the good of the industry.

After a career as an engineer, Joe shifted gears and went to work for MetLife in 1974. Within his first 12 months at MetLife, Joe made the President's Conference. Joe then went to CFM Associates in 1976. In 1992, Joe became a general agent for Guardian Life Insurance Company of America.

At the urging of fellow general agent and GAMA International past president Tim Murray, Joe became active in the Sales Committee. "Joe is the example of servant leadership our board looks for," said Tim Murray. "His leadership helped GAMA build its reserves to one-third of its annual operating budget. Because of leaders like Joe, GAMA is able to invest in initiatives like the Leaders of Today and Tomorrow (LoTT) Program and help the next generation of leaders move ahead in their careers."

Joe has not only been an incredible volunteer for GAMA International, he is also an active volunteer with the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the Elizabeth McNay Memorial Fund, the New Island Hospital and the American Heart Association.

Joe says he was surprised and "overwhelmed" when he received the call about the award because he thinks so many of his colleagues contribute to GAMA in even bigger ways. "I see these people giving so much of themselves, and I think how great it would be to be able to do more and I'm always looking at them as something to strive for."

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GAMA International is a worldwide professional association serving 5,500 field leaders in the insurance and financial services industry. Its members recognize their critical role in finding, building and inspiring the next generation of top performers who will, in their turn, lead the industry into the future. To help build these leaders, the association provides its members with professional development resources and opportunities, including educational, networking and leadership. GAMA International's Web site is located at www.gamaweb.com.

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