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Kerry Neal Wins 2023 NGMA Newton Award

APRIL 12, 2023 – WASHINGTON, D.C. – Kerry Neal, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition, Grants and Risk Management, U.S. Department of Education, has won the 2023 Newton Award from the National Grants Management Association (NGMA). He was selected for his longtime service and commitment to the grants profession and his willingness to assist others in the field.

Neal is a career member of the Senior Executive Service (SES). He is responsible for leadership/oversight in the following areas: formulating and interpreting financial policy (4 FAM/4 FAH); agency financial reporting, including preparation and production of the annual agency financial report (AFR); and federal assistance financial management (grants and assistance payment systems, training, and policy).

“The grants management community is full of dedicated, passionate public servants and servant leaders that it is incredibly difficult to select a Newton Award winner. It comes down to the little things that make a tremendous impact on both the profession and us, as people - the human element,” said NGMA President Eric J. Russell, CIA, CGAP, CGMS, MPA. “Kerry Neal has shown time and again that he is willing to roll up his sleeves in betterment of the public cause; but he has also served as a mentor, confidant, and provider of humor when the path seems most dim. The Board selected Kerry because of his lengthy record in grants management, government finance and law, but more so because he has brought many of us to the profession and has helped younger professionals pave their own way.”

Neal has been a member of various non-profit executive boards, including the African American Federal Executive Association (AAFEA) and NGMA. He is also a 2021 Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration.

Neal holds a B.S. in business from Long Island University, Southampton College; M.A. in business/legal administration from Marymount University; J.D. from University of Baltimore School of Law; and an LL.M. in environmental and energy law and policy from Georgetown University Law Center. He is admitted to practice law in Maryland, District of Columbia and the U.S. Supreme Court.

The NGMA Newton Award recognizes individuals who show a commitment to NGMA’s mission and contribute to the success of the Association's programs and the general grants



management field. The award is nominated by and voted on by the NGMA Board of Directors. Neal and the winners in the other NGMA Award categories (Impact Award/Public Sector and Impact Award/Private Sector) were recognized at the 2023 Annual Grants Training (AGT) (April 10-13; Washington, D.C.).

The National Grants Management Association (NGMA) provides tools and resources for grants professionals to support and maintain high levels of grants management competency and to establish standards of excellence for grants managers. For more information, visit <https://www.ngma.org/>.

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