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NSSTA and the AAPD Sign a New Policy Statement on Structured Settlements

This policy statement describes the value of structured settlements for claimants and how the missions of these two organizations help injury victims and their families

Washington D.C: The National Structured Settlements Trade Association (NSSTA) is pleased to announce that the AAPD Policy Committee has unanimously approved a new joint statement about how structured settlements help to enable the newly injured to live with dignity, independence and freedom from reliance on government programs in the future.

"The AAPD is an excellent partner for NSSTA," said Eric Vaughn, Executive Director of NSSTA. "We are proud of the financial security that our members help to put in place for structured settlement participants and injured claimants as part of comprehensive settlement plans tailored to the needs of the injury victim. The policy statement approved by the AAPD describes the benefits of structured settlements in detail, and shows that the work we do is valued by an organization that champions the needs and priorities of the disability community."

"The new NSSTA / AAPD Policy Statement will be used by structured settlement industry leaders and disability rights activists as we work together to educate Members of Congress on the value and importance of maintaining critical Federal Tax Code structured settlement language," said Eric Vaughn. AAPD and NSSTA plan to deliver the New Policy Statement to every Member of Congress.

The National Structured Settlements Trade Association represents structured settlement consultants who work with plaintiff attorneys, defense counsel, mediators and the life insurance industry to assist seriously injured victims meet the challenges of paying for a lifetime of living expenses, health care costs and medical bills by structuring their tort claim settlement. A structured settlement provides economic security that allows injury victims to live their lives with dignity and respect.

NSSTA has worked closely with the AAPD for decades. Most recently, the AAPD partnered with NSSTA and the National Consumers League to strengthen Structured Settlement Protection Acts that protect claimants and empower state courts to prevent factoring companies from preying on injured people. The structured settlements industry continues to fight to protect the rights of injured people and encourage additional State Legislatures to take action to strengthen their State Structured Settlement Protection Act (SSPA) statutes. "The AAPD and NCL were valuable partners in our effort to enhance the

SSPA's," said Eric Vaughn. "We look forward to continuing our relationship with the AAPD and doing our part to support their mission."

To view the full policy statement, please visit www.nssta.com.

For more information, please contact Abbey Hudson at 949-444-2549 or email ahudson@nssta.com.

About NSSTA: Since 1985, the National Structured Settlements Trade Association (NSSTA) has been the leading voice of the structured settlement industry, representing more than 1,200 professional structured settlement consultants, life insurance industry leaders, property casualty company claims officials and lawyers from across the United States and Canada. For more information, please visit www.nssta.com.

About the AAPD: The <u>American Association of People with Disabilities</u> (AAPD) is a convener, connector, and catalyst for change, increasing the political and economic power of people with disabilities. As a national cross-disability rights organization AAPD advocates for full civil rights for the 50+ million Americans with disabilities.