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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AAPC Announces 2012 Hall of Fame Inductees *Renowned Political Consultants Paul Begala, James Carville and Karl Rove to Receive Highest Honors from their Peers*

MCLEAN, VA. (MARCH 8, 2012) The American Association of Political Consultants (AAPC), the world's largest organization of political and public affairs specialists, is proud to announce its 2012 Hall of Fame inductees. Induction into the AAPC Hall of Fame is the highest honor that working members of the profession can bestow upon a colleague.

This year's honorees, renowned political consultants Paul Begala, James Carville and Karl Rove, will be formally inducted into the AAPC's Hall of Fame during its upcoming annual Pollie Awards and Conference, which will be held March 28-30 in Austin, Texas.

"These three individuals have each made an indelible mark on our nation's—and the world's—political landscape and we're proud to honor them for their exemplary careers," stated Dale Emmons, president of the AAPC. "The Hall of Fame awards are an opportunity for us as an industry to celebrate the very best in our field. This year is no exception. James, Paul and Karl are all defining figures in the world of politics and public affairs and we are proud to celebrate their contributions and achievements."

Every year, the AAPC selects peers whose careers and activities can serve as an inspiration to all, especially students and young professionals. This year, the AAPC Board of Directors has chosen to honor three well-known and well-respected members of the political ranks.

Paul Begala is a political analyst for CNN and was part of the political team that won an Emmy for its coverage of the 2006 elections and a Peabody Award for its coverage of the 2008 presidential election. Begala served as counselor to President Bill Clinton in the White House and was senior strategist for the Clinton-Gore presidential campaign in 1992. Begala is an affiliated professor of Public Policy at Georgetown University.

James Carville is one of America's best-known political consultants. In 1993, the AAPC named Carville "Campaign Manager of the Year" for his leadership on the 1992 presidential campaign, when he helped guide Bill Clinton to the presidency. Carville is also an author, actor, producer, talk-show host, speaker and restaurateur. Carville can be seen regularly on television as a CNN commentator and contributor.

Karl Rove is a well-known Republican political consultant. Rove was senior advisor and Deputy Chief of Staff to President George W. Bush and is credited with the former president's 1994 and 1998 Texas gubernatorial victories. Rove was president of Karl Rove + Company, an Austin-based public affairs firm that worked for Republican candidates, non-partisan causes and gubernatorial candidates in 24 states. Rove now serves on the University of Texas Chancellor's Council Executive Committee and is one of the top commentators on American politics.

"I am excited to see this recognition for Karl", said AAPC vice president Art Hackney. "For many of us on the Republican side, Karl exemplifies the best of the political consulting business. Karl built his reputation on his encyclopedic knowledge of political history, his dedication to his clients and his ability to enjoy the process of a frequently ferocious business. His is a career well-lived."

AAPC's annual Pollie Awards and Conference is the event of the year for political consulting and public affairs professionals and suppliers. No other conference provides access to such an elite group of political professionals. The Hall of Fame luncheon will take place on Friday, March 30.

The American Association of Political Consultants (AAPC) is the world's largest organization of political and public affairs professionals. Founded in 1969, the AAPC is a bipartisan trade association with more than 1,200 members from all 50 states and other countries. The AAPC membership reflects a wide range of ideologies, partisan affiliations and professional specialties, including students and academics. The AAPC represents the interest of political campaign and public affairs professionals, provides opportunities for education and training and sets a high standard of professionalism for the political consulting and public affairs industries.

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