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For Immediate Release

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**Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL 25th) to be honored
with SAHMA's Affordable Housing Advocate Award**

May 10, 2019 Atlanta, GA. – The Southeastern Affordable Housing Management Association (SAHMA) is pleased to announce that Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL 25th) will be honored with SAHMA's Affordable Housing Advocate Award on Monday, August 19, 2019 at the Hyatt Regency, Greenville, South Carolina.

Several years ago, the SAHMA Board of Directors, with the support of our membership, established the Affordable Housing Advocate Award to honor and recognize Legislators and other Industry Partners who have demonstrated great leadership, support and commitment to affordable housing. By recognizing these important partners, we not only strengthen the relationships, but encourage the continued advocacy for affordable housing that is desperately needed not only in the Southeast, but nationwide.

Representative Diaz-Balart was chosen for this honor because of his continued commitment and work to support affordable housing. Mr. Diaz-Balart is the leading Republican on the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee, which oversees the funding for HUD programs. He previously served as the Subcommittee Chairman and despite fiscal constraints, under his leadership the THUD Subcommittee provided adequate funding for HUD programs and tried to ensure that renewal of rental assistance should be a priority. Over the last four years he and his colleagues have worked to fund critical housing and infrastructure program such as the Community Development Block Grant, Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS, Homeless Assistance Grants and he continues his work in support of Disaster Relief.

Notable Quote: “Over the last four years, I have enjoyed working with my colleagues to fund critical housing and infrastructure programs, while protecting Americans hard-earned tax dollars and reducing bureaucracy. I am proud of what we have accomplished, including supporting programs that help our nation's veterans, the elderly, the disabled, and other vulnerable populations” (Source: Rep. Diaz-Balart website)

Previous recipients of the SAHMA Affordable Housing Advocate Award are Senator Tim Scott (R-SC) in 2017 and Representative Carlos Curbelo (R-FL 26th) in 2018.

For more information about SAHMA please visit our website at www.sahma.org or call 404-691-3337. Our mission is to Inform, Educate and Connect the SAHMA community of affordable housing professionals. We accomplish our mission by providing timely updates, industry training, and networking opportunities for our members and the affordable housing community as a whole.

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