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For Immediate Release

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**Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL) honored
with SAHMA's 2020 Affordable Housing Advocate Award**

May 11, 2020 Decatur, GA. – The Southeastern Affordable Housing Management Association (SAHMA) is pleased to announce that Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL) has been honored with SAHMA's Affordable 2020 Housing Advocate Award.

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.

Senator Shelby was chosen for this honor because of his continued commitment and work to support affordable housing. Mr. Shelby, as the Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee is well versed on the work of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee, which oversees the funding for HUD programs. In addition, he is very knowledgeable of the many affordable housing programs that serve lower income Americans to include not only HUD but USDA, Rural Development and the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program through the IRS.

Notably during the current Coronavirus Pandemic, Senator Shelby has been a leading voice and supporter of emergency supplemental funding to provide for Coronavirus prevention, preparation and response which critically affects the populations our members serve.

We had hoped to present this award during our annual SAHMA Leadership Affordable Housing Conference in August but in light of the current pandemic this event will not take place as a live event. However, we are making plans for a presentation of the award at the Senator's earliest convenience.

Previous recipients of the SAHMA Affordable Housing Advocate Award are Senator Tim Scott (R-SC) in 2017, Representative Carlos Curbelo (R-FL 26th) 2018, and Representative Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL 25th) 2019.

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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