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Patti Wells awarded prestigious 2023 Aspinall Award

Presented by the Colorado Water Congress

Denver – Feb. 1, 2023- The Colorado Water Congress awarded Patti Wells, the first woman to be named Denver City Attorney and the first woman to be the lead lawyer for Colorado’s largest water provider, the 2023 Wayne N. Aspinall “Water Leader of the Year” Award.

The Aspinall Award is given annually in recognition of a career of service and contribution to Colorado’s water community. It is awarded to a person who has dedicated a significant part of his or her career to the advancement of the state and its programs to protect, develop and preserve the state’s water resources.

The previous Aspinall Award winners and Colorado Water Congress officers selected Wells for this award.

About Patti Wells

In addition to being the first female Denver City Attorney, Ms. Wells served as the City Attorney and Deputy City Attorney for the City and County of Denver for nine years. She spent the rest of her career serving as General Counsel for Denver Water from 1991 to 2018. There, she worked to develop, protect, and preserve the water supply for Colorado’s largest and oldest water utility, which provides drinking water to approximately one quarter of the state’s population.

In addition to her accomplished career at Denver Water, Ms. Wells served on the Colorado Water Conservation Board under two different governors, where she played a key role in developing Colorado’s Water Plan. She also served the state as a member of the Colorado Water Quality Control Commission where she helped establish water quality standards to protect public health and the environment, and served as a board member of the Colorado Water Trust.

About the Wayne N. Aspinall Award

The Colorado Water Congress presents the prestigious Wayne N. Aspinall Award annually to a Coloradan who has long demonstrated courage, dedication, knowledge and leadership in the development, protection and preservation of Colorado water - those attributes possessed by Mr. Aspinall. The late Wayne Aspinall, a lawyer and former member of the U.S. House of Representatives, remains one of the most influential water leaders in Colorado history.

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