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### **Cate Barron honored with Lifetime Achievement Award**

HARRISBURG, Pa. (July 6, 2023) — The Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association is proud to present its 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award to Cate Barron, retired president of PennLive/The Patriot-News in Harrisburg. The Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes exceptional service and outstanding accomplishment spanning a career in journalism.

“She has been one of the pillars of Pennsylvania journalism for several decades,” Reading Eagle retired Editor Harry Deitz wrote in his nomination of Barron.

“Newspaper editors throughout Pennsylvania admire and respect Cate for her accomplishments and her integrity as an editor and leader for The Patriot-News, PennLive and journalism in general,” he added.

Barron’s career began at WMRF radio in her hometown of Lewistown, Pennsylvania. As Jim McClure, retired editor of the York Daily Record/Sunday News, recounts in his nomination letter, “She was beating the local newspaper, The Sentinel, on breaking stories so the editor there hired her to join the newspaper’s staff. (True story. I was the editor.)”

She was named an assistant city editor for The Patriot-News in 1985 and went on to serve as editor of the Sunday Patriot-News, features editor and managing editor before being selected as vice president of content in 2013. Six years later, Barron was named president of PA Media Group.

“Despite changes in the industry, she has never lost sight of news that impacts readers and communities,” McClure noted. “She has played a key role in partnerships with other Pennsylvania news organizations focused on deep-dive reporting, such as Spotlight PA.

“From her earliest days as a news professional,” he continued, “Cate Barron did not just want to be a journalist. She wanted to do something as a journalist.”

During her tenure at PennLive/The Patriot-News, the newsroom won multiple awards, including Keystone Media Sweepstakes Awards, PNA News Organization of the Year Awards and, most notably, a Pulitzer Prize for coverage of the child sex abuse scandal involving former Penn State assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky.

Barron’s official retirement date was June 30.

Barron has served on the boards of numerous industry organizations, including the Pennsylvania Society of News Editors, the Pennsylvania Associated Press Media Editors and the national

Associated Press Media Editors. She serves as treasurer for the PNA Foundation Board of Trustees.

"Cate Barron is a true friend of PNA and the PNA Foundation," said Melinda Condon, foundation executive director. "No matter the ask, the problem, the project, Cate was always the first to volunteer, the first to find a solution. She generously gave of her time, knowledge and resources through participation on boards and committees, through training and event planning, and through her constant, steadfast support."

"On a personal note," Deitz wrote, "during my 10 years as editor of the Reading Eagle, there were several highly respected editors at other newspapers who I often turned to for opinions and advice in matters of staff development and news direction and who always had time to talk and share. Cate was one of those. I am grateful for her professional friendship. And I'm honored to submit her for the Lifetime Achievement Award."

The award will be presented to Barron at PNA's Annual Dinner on Nov. 2 at the Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey Hotel.

**About PNA:**

Founded in 1925, PNA is the nonprofit trade association for print and online news media in Pennsylvania. Its mission is to advance the business interests of Pennsylvania news media organizations and to promote the importance of a free and independent press.

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