

**For Immediate Release
April 21, 2010**

Contact: Charles M. Compton, FAICP Tel. 803.785.1454; ccompton@lex-co.com
Ryan Scherzinger, American Planning Association
Tel. 202.349.1008; rscherzinger@planning.org

Noted Lexington County, SC, Planner Selected For Top Honor

Washington, D.C. – The American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) inducted planner Charles M. Compton, FAICP, of Lexington, SC, into the elite membership of AICP's College of Fellows at a recent black-tie ceremony held in conjunction with the American Planning Association's (APA) 2010 National Planning Conference in New Orleans.

"The AICP College of Fellows recognizes individuals who've made exceptional contributions to the planning profession," said AICP President Paul Inghram, AICP. "The Fellows have devoted their careers to excellence in planning and they set the highest standards for professional planners today," he added.

Election to the Fellowship may be granted to planners who have been longtime members of AICP and have demonstrated excellence whether in professional practice, teaching and mentoring, research or community service and leadership. Altogether 37 planners from 22 states were inducted into the AICP College of Fellows at the April 10 ceremony, which was held at Hotel Monteleone in New Orleans.

All planners who have been certified by AICP use the letters "AICP" after their name. Fellows, however, are designated with the letters "FAICP." Currently there are about 16,000 practicing urban and rural planners in North America and elsewhere with AICP certification. Of those, approximately 425 have been named Fellows.

Currently director of the Lexington County Planning and GIS Department, Compton is being recognized by the AICP College of Fellows for his community service and leadership. For more than three decades he has shown himself to be an innovator, educator, advocate, and leader. His legacy of civic involvement and public service involves not only the planning profession, but also communities, school districts and churches.

Particularly noteworthy are his 35 years of active involvement with the National Association of County Planners; more than 25 years of being an active leader and member of both the South Carolina Chapter of APA and APA's national organization; pro bono planning assistance to local governments and community groups in South Carolina and neighboring states; development of innovative land

use ordinances; and being a co-creator of KIDS CITY, a planning education tool and curriculum for elementary, middle and high school students.

AICP is the professional institute of APA. For more than 70 years AICP and its predecessor organization, the American Institute of Planners (AIP), have promoted professional excellence in the field of planning by setting high standards for competence, education, experience and ethical conduct, and by articulating the future of the planning profession.

For more information about the AICP College of Fellows visit <http://www.planning.org/faicp>.

The American Planning Association is an independent, not-for-profit educational organization that provides leadership in the development of vital communities. APA and its professional institute, the American Institute of Certified Planners, are dedicated to advancing the art, science and profession of good planning -- physical, economic and social -- so as to create communities that offer better choices for where and how people work and live. Members of APA help create communities of lasting value and encourage civic leaders, business interests and citizens to play a meaningful role in creating communities that enrich people's lives. APA has offices in Washington, D.C., and Chicago, Ill. For more information, visit www.planning.org.



Lexington County planner Charles Compton, FAICP, recently was inducted into the American Institute of Certified Planners College of Fellows.