**Nation's consumer advocates honor Florida Public Counsel Jack Shreve**

**SILVER SPRING, MD, June 13, 2003** - The National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA) has honored Florida Public Counsel Jack Shreve as the first recipient of the Robert F. Manifold Lifetime Service Award. Members of the organization unanimously passed a resolution to honor Shreve with the award at NASUCA's mid-year meeting held this week in Portland, Oregon.

"Consumers could have had no stronger advocate over the past 25 years than Jack Shreve," said Robert S. Tongren, NASUCA President and Ohio Consumers' Counsel. "Floridians have benefited through lower utility rates and our nation has benefited from his guidance and leadership. NASUCA is proud to have Jack Shreve as our first honoree."

Shreve is a founding member of NASUCA, which began in 1979 when he and consumer advocates from 16 other states and the District of Columbia recognized that an association was needed to help promote consumer utility issues at the federal level. He is a past president of the organization and has sat on its Executive Committee each year of its existence. Shreve has served as Florida Public Counsel since 1978 and will retire on June 30.

Shreve's accomplishments include a 1994 agreement with Southern Bell, now BellSouth, that reduced consumers' rates by $300 million per year. His advocacy efforts also led to an agreement in 2002 with Florida Power, now Progress Energy Florida, that cut electric rates by $125 million per year and two agreements with Florida Power & Light which have reduced its rates by $600 million dollars per year.

The NASUCA award is named after the late Robert Manifold, who dedicated his legal career to public service and consumer advocacy. After graduating from Purdue University and Stanford Law School, Manifold worked on consumer issues at the Federal Trade Commission and at Evergreen Legal Services of Seattle before joining the Washington State Attorney General's Office in 1983. Helping to enforce laws prohibiting unfair and deceptive trade practices, Manifold served as Chief of the Consumer Protection and Public Counsel Sections during his tenure. Providing national leadership, he served on NASUCA's Executive Committee. Manifold succumbed to chronic leukemia earlier this year.

Tongren noted that the award will not be given on a regular basis, but only to recognize a distinctive level of accomplishment.

**About NASUCA**

The National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA) is an association of 42 advocate offices. Members are designated by laws of their respective states to represent the interests of utility consumers before state and federal regulators and in the courts.