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TENNESSEE CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING LEADERS IN THE INDUSTRY

Murfreesboro, TN— The Tennessee Cattlemen's Association (TCA) awarded seven individuals for their hard work and dedication to the beef cattle industry during the 33rd Annual Tennessee Cattlemen's Convention and Trade Show in Murfreesboro on January 26, 2018.

These awards were created to recognize outstanding individuals in the various sectors of the cattle industry in Tennessee. Nominated by their peers, the awards presented recognized individuals who have excelled in stocker and cow-calf production, educational programs, business, and service to the beef cattle industry.

"All of this year's award recipients are dedicated and passionate about their work in the industry," said Charles Hord, executive vice president of the Tennessee Cattlemen's Association. "They are trustworthy and knowledgeable in their fields and widely respected among producers."

Jerry Lay from Madisonville, TN won the Dr. Emmit Rawls Outstanding Stocker Producer Award, and Mike Jones from Sweetwater, TN won the Dr. Clyde Lane Outstanding Cow-Calf Producer Award.

Two extension agents within the state were awarded for their dedication to education. Laurie Mobley from Houston County won the Dr. Jim Neel Outstanding Work in Beef Extension Educational Programs Award, and Dan Owen from Lincoln County won the Outstanding Work in 4-H Beef Programs Award.

"It's an honor to work with the Houston County producers and their beef cattle operations," said Laurie Mobley. "This award makes me realize how much all the hard work is worth it."

Alan Thomas of Zoetis Animal Health from Johnson City, TN won the Business Person of the Year, and Billy Ashe from Stantonville, TN won the John Bartee Distinguished Service Award. Senator Dolores Gresham from Somerville, TN was recognized as the TCA Legislator of the Year.

"I am so proud and honored to be recognized in this realm," said Sen. Gresham. "I am a city girl born and bred but I am a born again farmer. I have learned so much living on the farm after living in the city. That is that the beef industry is a way of life, it is a set of values that

acknowledge God as our creator and us as stewards of His creation. We must aggressively protect those values and that way of life."

TCA looks forward to working with these individuals and other great people in the cattle industry for years to come. Applications for next year's awards will be available in the late fall of 2018.

TCA was founded in 1985 and has more than 7,000 members from across the state and the southeast. The organization works to provide the cattlemen of Tennessee with an organization through which they may function collectively to protect their interests and work toward the solution of cattle industry problems and to build the necessary goodwill that will bring both governmental esteem and recognition to the industry.

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