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**Guam Power Authority General Manager receives individual achievement award**

**Seattle, Washington, June 20, 2023** — John M. Benavente, P.E., General Manager of Guam Power Authority, received the James D. Donovan Individual Achievement Award during the American Public Power Association’s National Conference in Seattle, Washington. The award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the electric utility industry and to public power.

John has been with the utility for nearly 40 years – 26 serving as General Manager. He has led recovery efforts following category 4 and 5 typhoons, in addition to a magnitude-7.8 earthquake, and subsequently oversaw a revitalization and modernization of the utility’s infrastructure. John has also served on the APPA Board of Directors for Region 10, in which capacity he served as a champion for these island utility members, whose resources are often limited by their geography and economic status. Moreover, John championed mutual aid efforts across the region, encouraging small island members of the Pacific Power Association to implement APPA’s model, which has resulted in additional mutual aid agreements throughout Micronesia.

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*The American Public Power Association is the voice of not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 2,000 towns and cities nationwide. We represent public power before the federal government to protect the interests of the more than 49 million people that public power utilities serve, and the 96,000 people they employ. Our association advocates and advises on electricity policy, technology, trends, training, and operations. Our members strengthen their communities by providing superior service, engaging citizens, and instilling pride in community-owned power.*