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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Christopher R. Erickson** Receives the Minnesota Federation of Engineering, Science, and Technology Societies Charles W. Britzius Distinguished Engineer Award



Saint Paul, Minn., 5/10/2021 – Minnesota Federation of Engineering, Science, and Technology Societies (MFESTS) and the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME), Minneapolis-Saint Paul Post, have named Christopher R. Erickson as the 2021 recipient of the Charles W. Britzius Distinguished Engineer Award.

MFESTS presents this award annually to a nominated individual submitted by MFESTS member societies which includes SAME, Minneapolis-Saint Paul Post. The award will be presented at the 2021 MFESTS Board Meeting held on June 22, 2021.

The Charles W. Britzius Distinguished Engineer Award recognizes outstanding lifetime achievements in the practice of engineering, contributions to the engineering profession, and actions enhancing the image of engineering in our society. Charles W. Britzius was the epitome of the distinguished engineer, having excelled in all three areas recognized by the award: he was the founder of Twin City Testing, Inc.; was a long-time contributor to the Minnesota Society of Professional Engineers and the American Society of Civil Engineers, Minnesota Section; served as mayor of Deephaven; and was a tireless supporter of numerous professional and civic causes.

White Bear Lake, MN resident Christopher R. Erickson holds Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University and a Master of Science in Civil Engineering from Utah State University. He works for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Saint Paul District, as a Supervisory Program Manager. In his current role, he serves as Full Assistant Deputy for Programs and Project Management Division. This role entails representing the Senior District Civilian (DPM) at regional governance meetings, programmatic oversight of Districts Civil Works study, design, and construction activities (\$150 to \$200 million / year), representing and or leading many internal District governance activities, leading the majority of personnel recruitment and hiring actions, development of organization policies, and oversight of personnel and budgetary issues. He leads a district project support group comprised of the Quality Manager, Writer Editor, Knowledge Manager, and District Archivist.

"The MFESTS award nomination process realizes many career benefits such as reflection for our members to take stock of unique contributions and motivates our members to seek feedback to achieve further stretch goals" said Cathy Krier, MFESTS 2020-2021 President. "Based on the nomination channels, the MFESTS recognition process ultimately boosts the immediate and long-term visibility of the member's science/engineering contributions across the widest range of engineering disciplines collectively represented by the member societies, reaching the broader Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics community in Minnesota."

Christopher R. Erickson, PE, PMP, was nominated in recognition significant contributions made over his 30 plus year career as a Researcher, Project Manager, and Leader with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He has contributed significantly to water resource and land related infrastructure throughout the Midwest. Mr. Erickson has led major design and construction programs in Europe supporting military readiness and family and support services. Mr. Erickson has faithfully supported his profession predominately with many years of service with Society of American Military Engineers (SAME). In addition to be actively involved as a professional he supports his community through of myriad of volunteer and leadership opportunities. His service to his country, profession, and community reflects great credit upon both himself and the engineering and science community.

MFESTS is an umbrella organization comprised of engineering-related member societies within the State of Minnesota. There currently are nineteen societies/chapters, representing approximately 6,000 individuals, that are members of MFESTS.

MFESTS' three primary mission foci are:

- 1) To provide service to the Societies that are members of the Federation.
- 2) To provide a service to the community at large and especially to young people in hopes of helping them learn more about potential careers in the fields of engineering, science, and technology.
- 3) To provide professional development services to professionals in engineering-related careers.

SAME is the only nonprofit professional engineering education organization that actively promotes the advancement of both individual technical knowledge and the collective engineering capabilities of governments, the uniformed services and private industry. Its goal is to unite public and private sector entities and individuals in the Architecture/Engineering/Construction fields to prepare for and overcome natural and man-made disasters, acts of terrorism, and improve security at home and abroad.

The Minneapolis–Saint Paul Post accomplishes this goal locally by supporting monthly luncheon meetings and other professional/social activities attended by members of local government, military, private industry, students and other interested parties. These meetings are announced via our e-mail distribution list and quarterly newsletter. We are supported by the national Society of American Military Engineers and publications such as The Military Engineer, which also promotes the interests and goals of our society and its members. More at [www.SAME.org/mpls-stpl](http://www.SAME.org/mpls-stpl).

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