FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Now Inviting Nominations for 2007 National Unemployment Insurance Awards

WASHINGTON, D.C. – "Nominations are now open for the 2007 National Unemployment Insurance (UI) Awards," UWC President Doug Holmes announced today. "The National UI Awards recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of unemployment taxes and benefits," he said. The awards will be presented at the 26th Annual **National Unemployment Insurance Issues Conference**, May 30 – June 1, 2007, in Frisco, Texas. This conference is sponsored by UWC's National Foundation for Unemployment Compensation & Workers' Compensation.

"We invite nominations for 4 annual awards," said Holmes. "Nominations must be received by March 23, 2007." The award categories are as follows:

- The *UWC Outstanding Contribution Award:* This award is given to a UWC member or researcher/thinktanker for outstanding contributions to UWC or the National Foundation for Unemployment Compensation and Workers' Compensation.
- The *J. Eldred Hill, Jr., Award:* This award is named after J. Eldred Hill, Jr., former president of UWC (then UBA), who was the first recipient. It is given to an individual for excellence in the public policy arena in service to the employer community.
- The *UI Integrity Award:* This award is given to an individual who has demonstrated courageous commitment to preserving the integrity of the unemployment system.
- The *Father Becker Award:* This award was instituted by J. Eldred Hill, Jr., and first given to the late Father Joseph Becker. The award is given to an individual who has made major contributions to UI research.

Nominations may be submitted by email to **Doug Holmes**, or sent to UWC by mail or fax. Nominations should include the specific award, the name of the nominee, and a brief description of why this individual merits the award.

"The unemployment insurance system is a vital part of our national safety net for workers, employers and our communities," Holmes said. "Employers finance the UI program through federal and state payroll taxes and contributions. The National UI Awards recognize the outstanding leadership and contributions needed to maintain a sound unemployment insurance program."

Visit our website for a list of past award recipients.