THE NATION’S MAYORS COMMEND APPOINTMENT OF FORMER LOUISVILLE MAYOR AND USCM PRESIDENT JERRY ABRAMSON TO THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION:

STATEMENT FROM USCM CEO AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TOM COCHRAN

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Conference of Mayors CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran today issued the following statement on President Obama’s appointment of the former Mayor of Louisville and USCM President, Kentucky’s Lieutenant Jerry Abramson to his Administration to serve as the President’s liaison to state and local governments:

“Jerry Abramson is one of the most innovative mayors in our history. As President of The United States Conference Mayors, he led the way for all of us to understand metropolitan economies. He was the first and inspired me to create our Metro Economies initiatives.

“He was also the leader who worked with President Clinton and police chiefs and mayors to establish the COPS program, and because of his leadership and our relationship with the President Clinton, we reduced crime significantly in our nation.

“Today, the future remains in front of us. The people of our nation live, worship, play and work in our cities. Jerry Abramson lives and breathes this and he will help us move our agenda forward.

“We thank President Obama for appointing the first former President of The U.S. Conference of Mayors to head up this special office. Two years to go. And, believe me, with Jerry Abramson, there will be new energy and new approaches all based on the fact that cities and our metro economies drive this nation.

“On behalf of the nation’s mayors, we congratulate Mayor Abramson and we give him our total support in the weeks, months and the years ahead.”

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The United States Conference of Mayors is the official non-partisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are nearly 1,400 such cities in the country today. Each city is represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the mayor. The primary roles of the Conference are to promote the development of effective national urban/suburban policy; strengthen federal-city relationships; ensure that federal policy meets urban needs; provide mayors with leadership and management tools; and create a forum in which mayors can share ideas and information. www.usmayors.org