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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Tom Kane Awarded AACUL's Highest Honor**

**Naperville, IL. (December 14, 2023)** – The American Association of Credit Union Leagues (AACUL) honored Tom Kane, President/CEO of the Illinois Credit Union League and Envisant, with its highest accolade, the prestigious Eagle Award. A visionary leader in the credit union movement, this recognition signifies Kane's incredible impact on the industry, his dedication to member service, and his vision for advancing financial well-being for all.

Kane's tenure as League President and CEO has been marked by notable achievements. He spearheaded initiatives that empowered credit unions to thrive in a rapidly evolving financial landscape. He established the ICUL "Commit to Change" committee, an internal initiative that tackles systemic barriers and fosters a more inclusive credit union system. Under his guidance, ICUL has successfully lobbied for legislation to improve the operating environment for credit unions in Illinois. He has developed Envisant, the business subsidiary of ICUL, into a leading CUSO providing credit unions access to competitive card programs and cutting-edge technology and resources.

Tom's impact extends beyond specific initiatives. He is widely admired for his collaborative spirit and commitment to working hard and being kind. "I can think of no one more deserving of this award than Tom Kane," said Libby Calderone, President/COO of Envisant, "every day he challenges our team and himself to find ways to nurture and grow the credit union movement. His energy and passion are inspiring!"

"Tom's enthusiasm for the credit union movement is palpable! Tom is a great example of collaboration and engagement in Illinois, within the League System, and throughout the Credit Union movement," praised AACUL President Brad Miller. "Within his state, Tom has shown commitment to the young professional movement by hosting a standalone conference as well as a standalone women's leadership conference. Tom is a champion of the League System in many ways, including encouraging his team to participate in various AACUL initiatives." Miller continued, "Tom's support of the credit union system is magnified by his generosity and selfless aim to help others flourish. The Eagle Award is a testament to Tom Kane's exceptional leadership and unwavering dedication to the credit union movement. His vision, passion, and commitment to making a difference have left an indelible mark on the industry, and his legacy will continue to inspire generations of credit union leaders to come."



**Photo caption (from L to R):** CrossState Credit Union Association President/CEO Patrick Conway, Dakota Credit Union Association President/CEO Jeff Olson, Illinois Credit Union System President/CEO Tom Kane, and AACUL President Brad Miller

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**The American Association of Credit Union Leagues (AACUL)** is the national association for the state and regional credit union leagues/associations throughout the United States. AACUL's mission is to leverage the collective power of Leagues to create advocacy wins for credit unions and build a strong network of credit union associations. We do this by providing advocacy support to yield impact, fostering collaboration and professional development for league staff, and representing the League System to the national association and other industry partners in order to protect and advance a vibrant credit union system.

**The Illinois Credit Union League** is the primary trade association for 217 state and federal credit unions in Illinois. It focuses on providing legislative and regulatory advocacy, compliance assistance and information, and a wide range of educational and training services to those credit unions, who in turn serve approximately 3.4 million members. More information can be found at [www.icul.com](http://www.icul.com).