



## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **SHELTON RECOGNIZED FOR OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE**

(July 30, 2020-Greenville, Texas) Local Realtor Renee Shelton was recently recognized by the Texas Public Power Association as their recipient of the Paula J. DiFonzo Industry Achievement Award. The annual award recognizes women in public power who have made outstanding leadership and individual contributions to their public power system in Texas.

Shelton's public power roots are very deep dating back to 1987 when she served on a committee of Greenville, Texas citizens that had been tasked with considering whether an autonomous board should be established to govern Texas' first municipally-owned electric utility. Based on that committee's recommendation, Greenville citizen's approval and new legislation by the Texas Legislature, the GEUS Board was formed.

Shelton was then appointed by the Greenville City Council to become a founding board member of the GEUS organization. Over the next 32 years, Shelton served six terms totaling more than 18 years. During this period she provided valuable leadership as both Board Chairperson and on numerous key committees.

Highlights from Shelton's periods of service include a dramatic improvement to our community's electric reliability, stabilization of rates, expansion of local generation capacity with addition of the Tom Darte Energy Center and development of Texas' first municipally-owned cable TV and Internet network.

"Renee Shelton's longstanding leadership personifies the importance and value of public service," said GEUS General Manager Alicia Hooks. "GEUS is a better organization today because of Renee's decision to get involved. For this, Greenville is fortunate," Hooks added.

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GEUS became the first municipally-owned electric utility in Texas in 1891. 110 years later it became the first municipally-owned cable television and high speed Internet operation in Texas. GEUS offers these services to the 26,000 plus consumer\owners living in the Greenville, Texas area located approximately 50 miles East of Dallas, Texas. GEUS is uniquely governed by an autonomous board of trustees that is appointed by the Greenville City Council. Steps were taken by the Texas Legislature in 1989 to allow this type of governing structure. For more information about our 125+ years of public power history or the services we offer, please visit our web site at [www.geus.org](http://www.geus.org)