AMBASSADOR YOUNG TO ADDRESS NACO’S JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY SYMPOSIUM

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Former United States Ambassador to the United Nations and Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young will address county officials from across the country on Friday, Jan. 27 during the 2012 National Association of Counties’ (NACo) Annual Justice and Public Safety (JPS) Symposium, Jan. 25-28, in Fulton County, Ga. Ambassador Young is scheduled to speak between 7-9 p.m. in Salon B/C of the Loews Atlanta Hotel.

He will share his insights about his lifelong work as a politician, human rights activist and businessman and how they relate to jail and justice issues facing counties.

The theme of the annual symposium, hosted by Fulton County and the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia, is “A National County Policy Symposium to Safely Lower Jail and Juvenile Detention Populations by Doing It Smarter.” More than 60 county officials from across the country will thoroughly explore these critical priorities with some of the nation’s foremost justice and public safety experts and consider how county officials can best shape federal policies and funding to ensure that services for residents in their communities are enhanced.

Each year members of NACo’s JPS Steering Committee meet with local, state and national experts to discuss important justice and public safety priorities on behalf of the nation’s 3,068 counties. The committee is responsible for developing NACo’s Justice and Public Safety policies and advocates for local government priorities before the U.S. Congress.

Other issues to be discussed during this year’s four-day symposium include: cost-effective pretrial justice programs, reentry programs, creating criminal justice coordinating councils, cybersecurity, and diverting the mentally ill from the criminal justice system. Click here to read the full agenda.

For more information, visit the Legislative and Policy section of the NACo website at www.naco.org or contact Jim Philipps at 202.942.4220 or jphilipps@naco.org.

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The National Association of Counties (NACo) is the only national organization that represents county governments in the United States. Founded in 1935, NACo provides essential services to the nation’s 3,068 counties. NACo advances issues with a unified voice before the federal government, improves the public’s understanding of county government, assists counties in finding and sharing innovative solutions through education and research, and provides value-added services to save counties and taxpayers money. For more information about NACo, visit www.naco.org.